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モーニング
KC1955

BILLY BAT 5

浦沢直樹

ストーリー共同制作 長崎尚志

講談社

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モーニングKC
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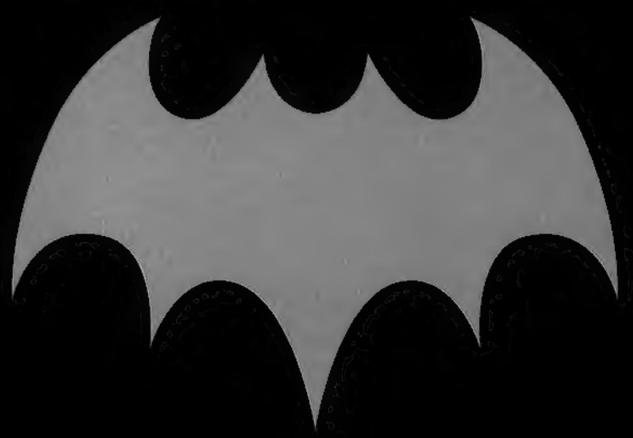

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In 1960 from Southern U.S.
"Deep South"
to Scare of Texas Dallas of 1962.
That case happens
only one year later!

Naoki Urasawa + Takashi Nagasaki Presents

5

浦沢直樹

ストーリー共同制作

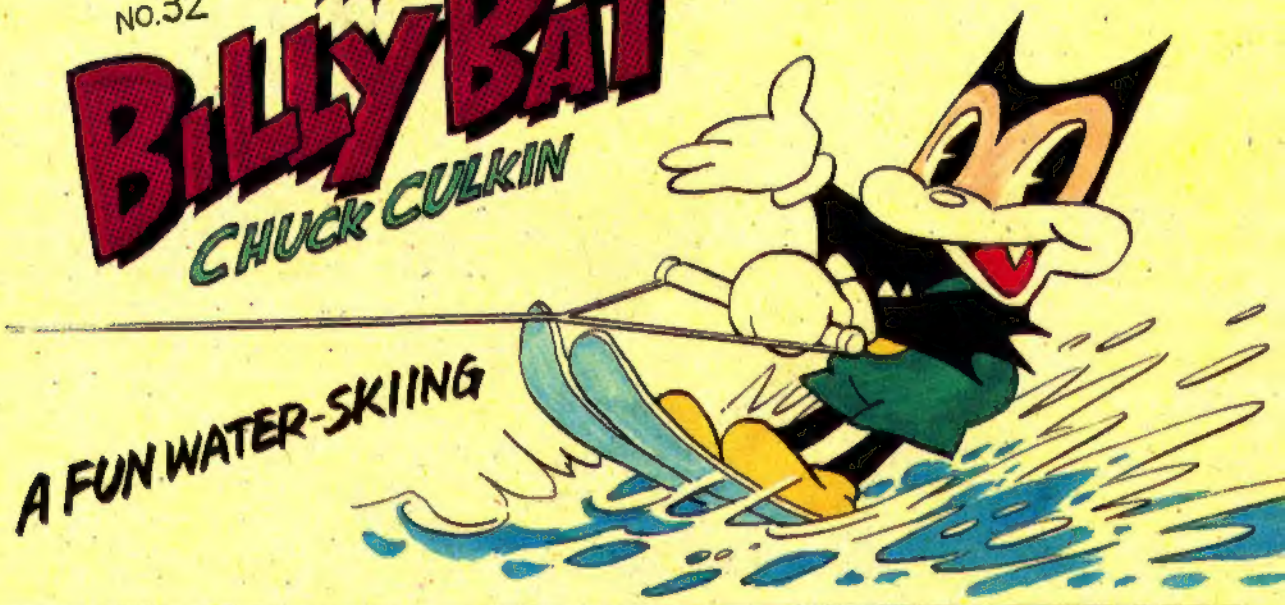
長崎尚志

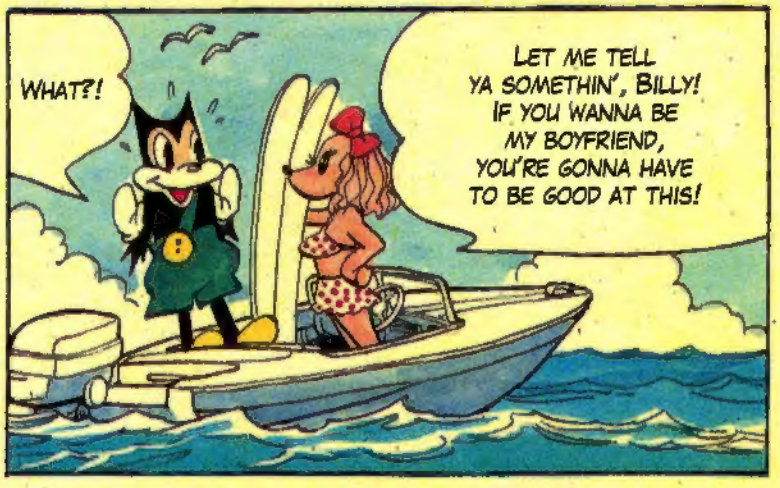
NO.32

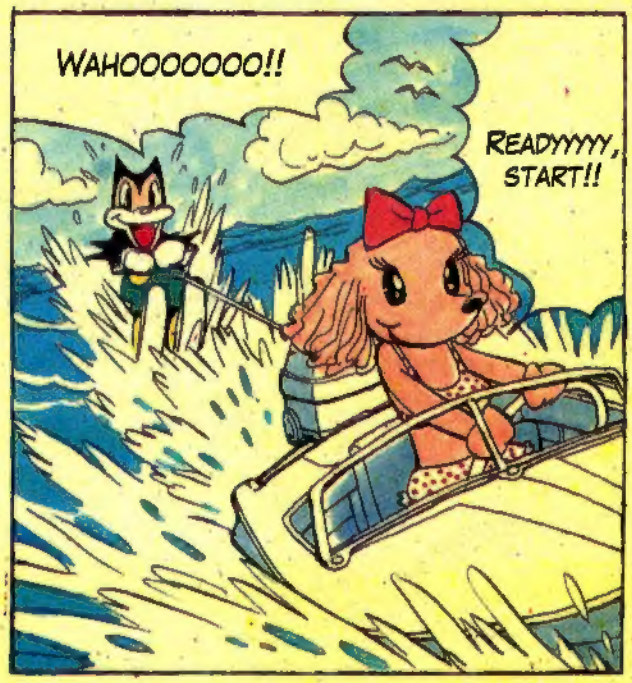
BILLY BAT

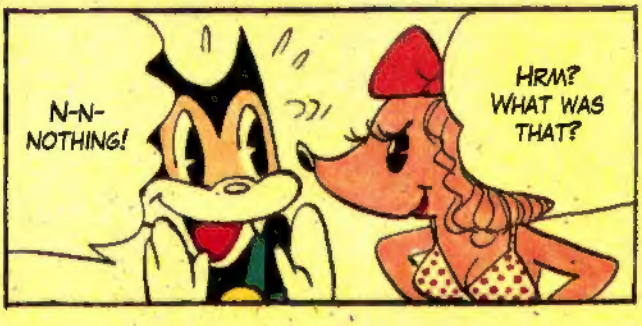
CHUCK CULKIN

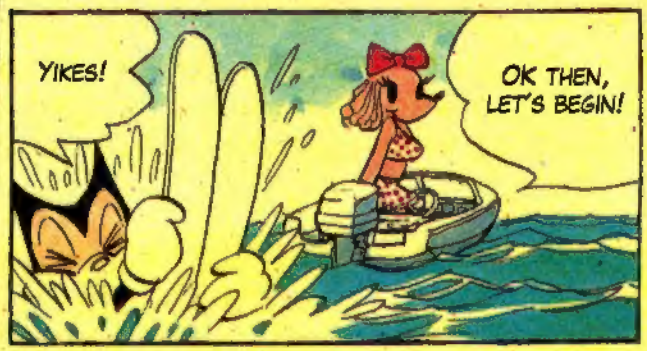
A FUN WATER-SKIING

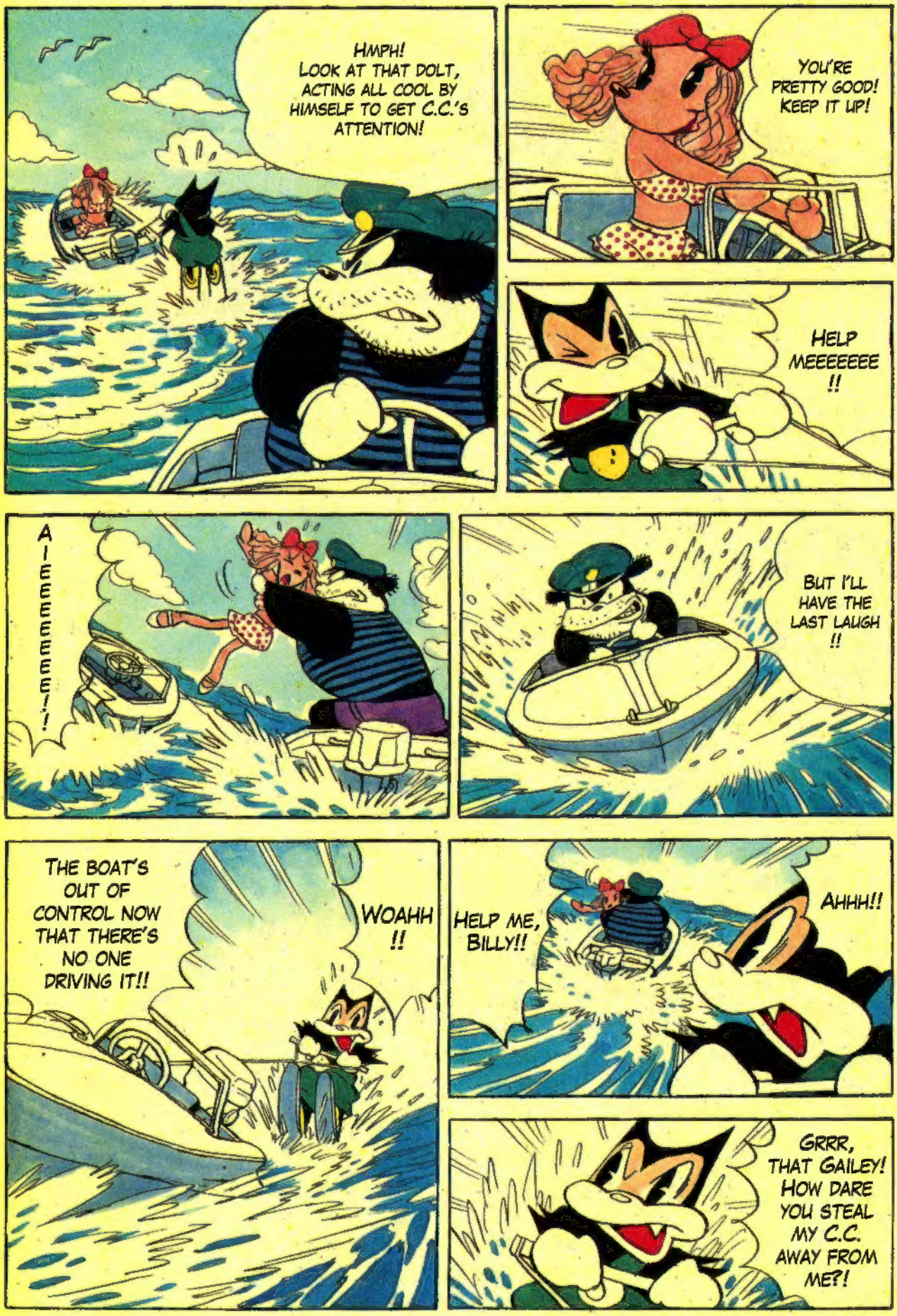


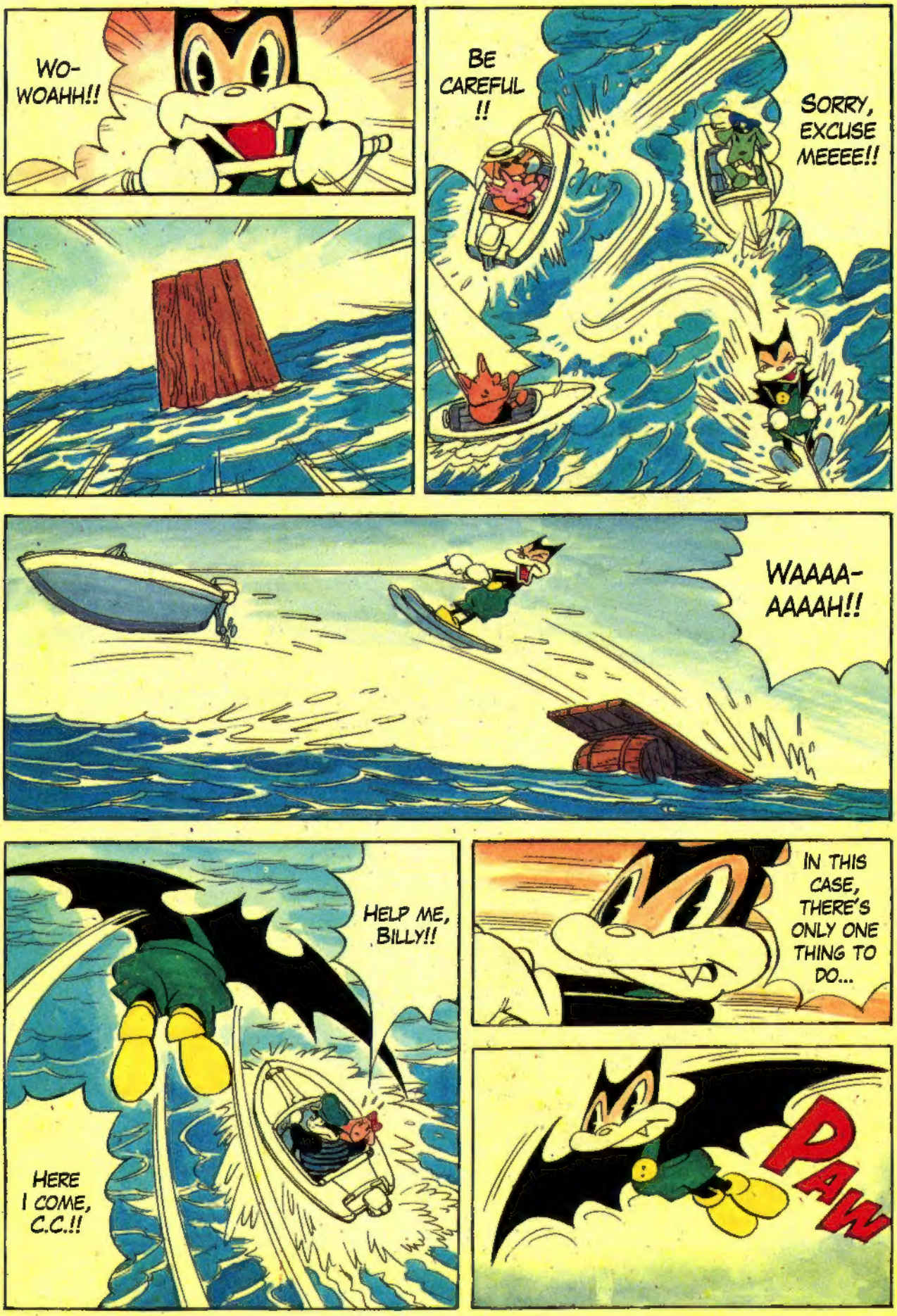


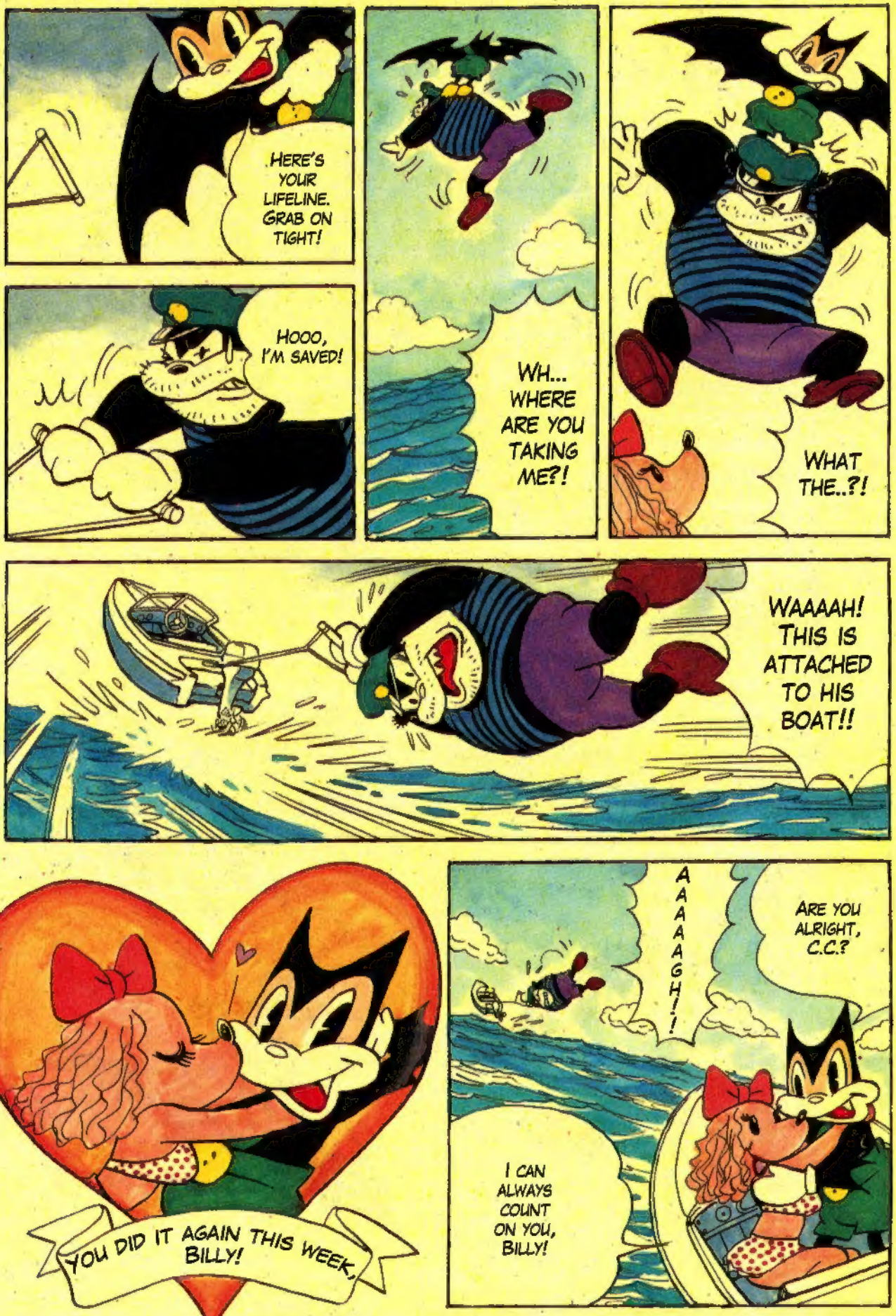






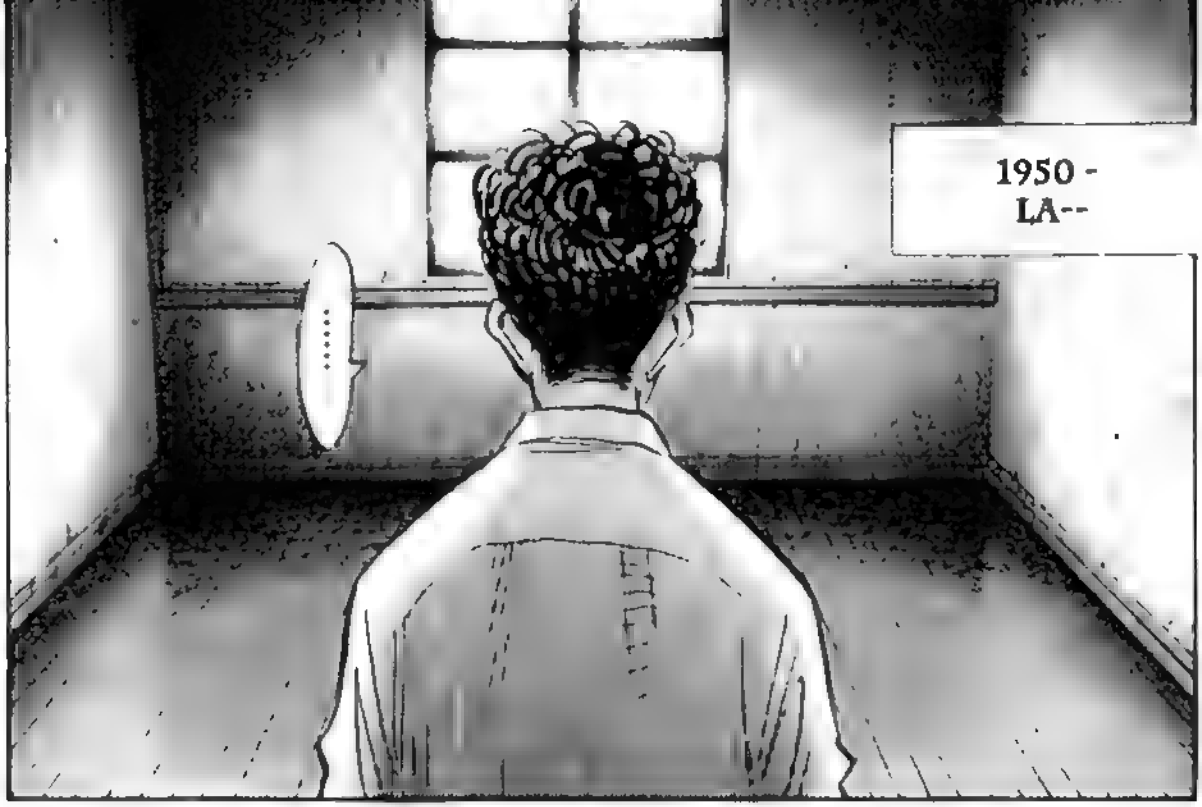

HMPH! LOOK AT THAT DOLT, ACTING ALL COOL BY HIMSELF TO GET C.C.'S ATTENTION!
YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD! KEEP IT UP!
HELP MEEEEEEE !!
AIEEEEEEEE!!
BUT I'LL HAVE THE LAST LAUGH !!
THE BOAT'S OUT OF CONTROL NOW THAT THERE'S NO ONE DRIVING IT!!
WOAHH !!
HELP ME, BILLY!!
AHHH!!
GRRR, THAT GAILEY! HOW DARE YOU STEAL MY C.C. AWAY FROM ME?!


WO-
WOAHH!!
BE CAREFUL !!
SORRY, EXCUSE MEEEE!!
WAAAA-
AAAAH!!
HELP ME, BILLY!!
HERE I COME, C.C.!!
IN THIS CASE, THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO...
PAW


HERE'S YOUR LIFELINE. GRAB ON TIGHT!
HOOO, I'M SAVED!
WH... WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?!
WHAT THE..?!
WAAAAH! THIS IS ATTACHED TO HIS BOAT!!
YOU DID IT AGAIN THIS WEEK, BILLY!
AAAAAGH!!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, C.C.?
I CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON YOU, BILLY!

I'M BACK.
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
IT'S ME, KEVIN.
I'M BACK---
...
?
GACHA
I'M...
I'M HOOOOME!!

CHAPTER 38 THE RETURN OF THE REAL ONE


1950 -
LA--

FOR RENT
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO PUT THE SIGN UP.

!!
YOU CAN'T JUST COME IN HERE WHENEVER YOU WANT, YA KNOW.

WH...WHAT HAPPENED TO THE COMIC STUDIO THAT WAS HERE?!
OH, THAT'S ALL BEEN CLEANED UP.
RENT

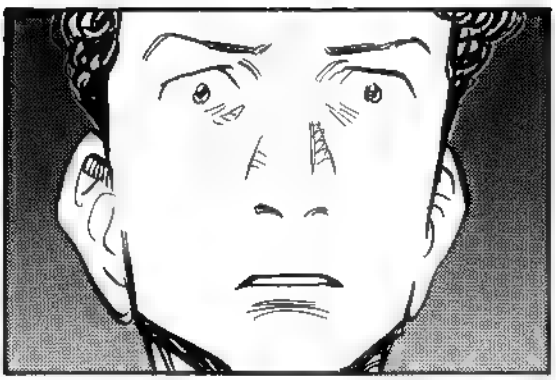
FOR RENT..?

EXCUSE ME?!
THIS WAS MY WORK-SPACE!!
WHO DID?!
CLEANED UP...
BEATS ME. ASK THE BOSS FOR THE DETAILS.
IT'S WHERE I USED TO DRAW BILLY BAT!!
MY DESK WAS RIGHT IN HERE.
OHHH!! YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME FROM THE GET-GO! I'M A BIG FAN!
UH...UHH, THANKS.
YOU DREW BILLY ..?
YEAH. I HAD SOME BUSINESS IN JAPAN SO I RETURNED FOR HALF A YEAR, AND THEN I COME HOME TO THIS!!

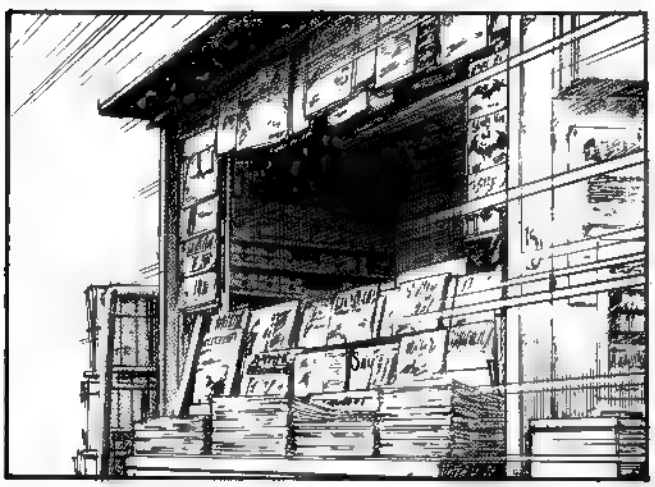
NO, I'M NOT...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE DRAWING BILLY BAT, RIGHT?

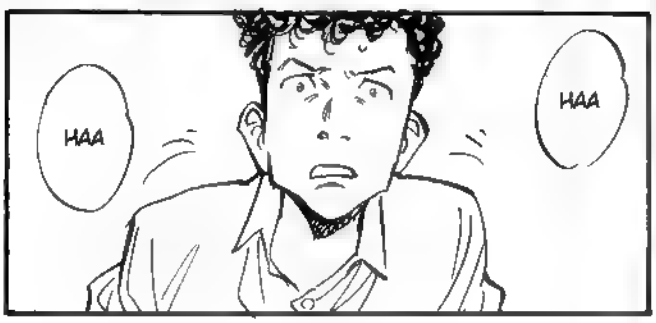
IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET YOU!! SO YOU'RE CHUCK CULKIN...

.....



THEN YOU'RE CHUCK CULKIN!




HAA
HAA

WHA...
MASKS
BILLY BAT
No 32
BILLY BAT
CHUCK CULKIN
B.BAT PUBLISHING

No 32
BILLY BAT
CHUCK CULKIN
A FUN WATER-SKIING
WHAT IS THIS?!

NO... LIKE I SAID, WE RECEIVED PROPER AUTHOR-IZATION.

...SO WE SOLD OFF ALL THE RIGHTS TO THAT PLACE.
WELL, IT WAS *YOUR* AUTHORIZATION, ...

FROM WHO?

THE QUOTE WAS AN OUT-RAGEOUS SUM, YOU KNOW.
SOME COMPANY NAMED B. BAT PUBLISHING.

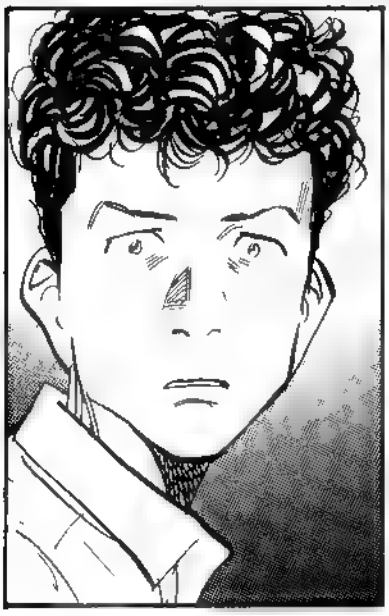
TO WHO?

AND HE MANAGED TO KEEP IT GOING SOME-HOW...
WHILE YOU WERE IN JAPAN, YOUR ASSISTANT CHUCK DECIDED TO CONTINUE THE SERIES...
.....
WELL, JUST CALM DOWN.
WE'RE POOLING TOGETHER YOUR SHARE, OF COURSE.
BUT YOU KNOW, IT WAS REALLY NO GOOD.
THE POPULARITY WENT WAY DOWN. ONLY YOU CAN DRAW BILLY BAT AFTER ALL.
CHUCK'S MANAGER..?
...ASKING HIM TO SELL THE RIGHTS TO BILLY.
AND THEN THIS GUY CLAIMING TO BE CHUCK'S MANAGER APPEARED, ...
...AND HE COULDN'T GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU...
IT WAS OBVIOUS THE SERIES WAS GOING TO BE CANCELED SOONER OR LATER...

INCIDENTALLY, ONCE THE "BILLY BAT" PUBLISHING STARTED OVER THERE, ...
...EVERYTHING CHANGED.

CHUCK'S VERSION OF BILLY IS DIFFERENT.
THE COMIC'S POPULARITY IS WORLDWIDE NOW.

IT WAS PRETTY POPULAR WHEN YOU WERE DRAWING IT HERE, ...
...BUT IF YOU GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT, IT WAS REALLY JUST POPULAR WITH THE HARDCORE FANS.



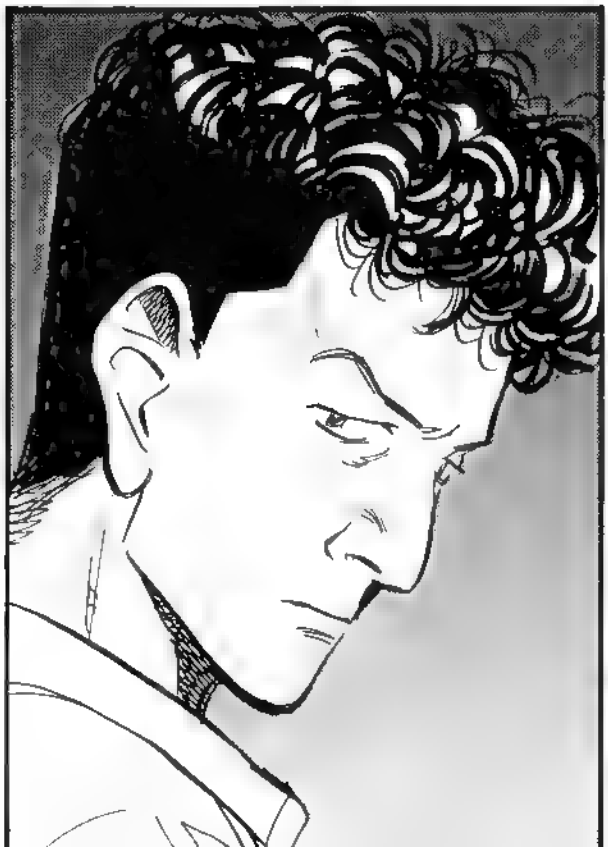
A PROGRAM CALLED THE "BILLY BAT HOUR" HAS EVEN STARTED RUNNING ON TELEVISION!!
BILLY BAT
CHUCK CULKIN

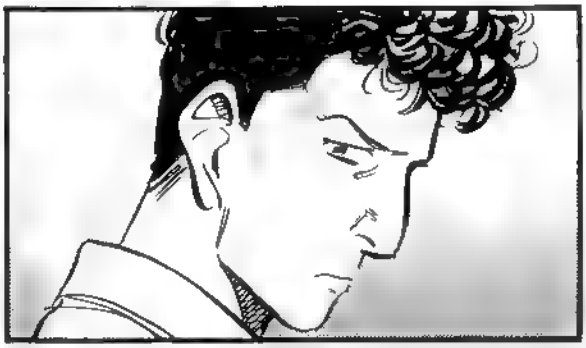
THERE ARE EVEN RUMORS THAT THE MILLION-DOLLAR MARK'S BEEN STAMPED ON THE CONTRACT MONEY FOR HIS AUTO-BIOGRAPHY.
NOW CHUCK IS THE POSTER BOY OF THE TIMES.

THIS IS WHAT IT MEANS TO "LET A BIG ONE GET AWAY".

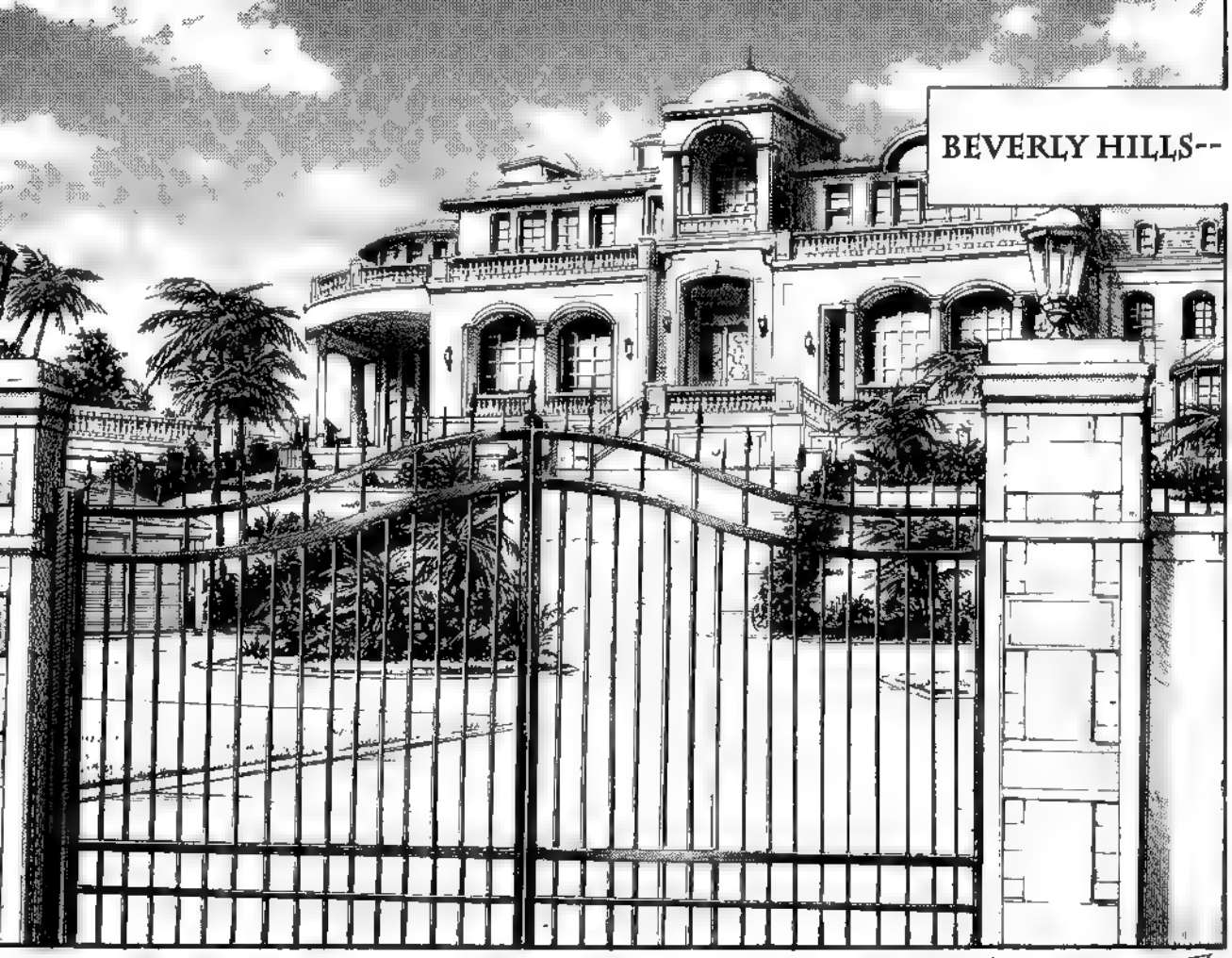
HEY, KEVIN.

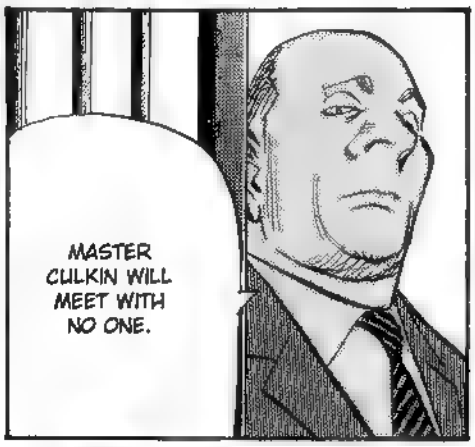
I HEAR IT'S CALLED "THE BAT & ME"...



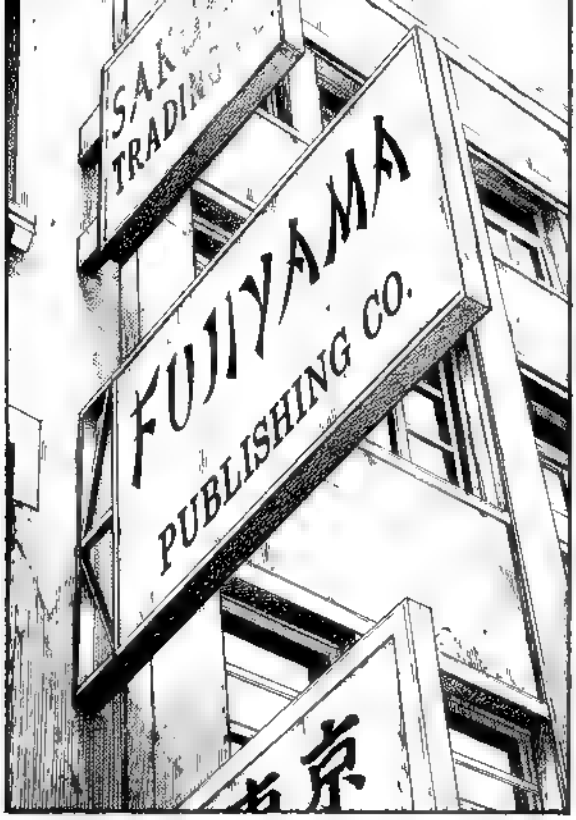


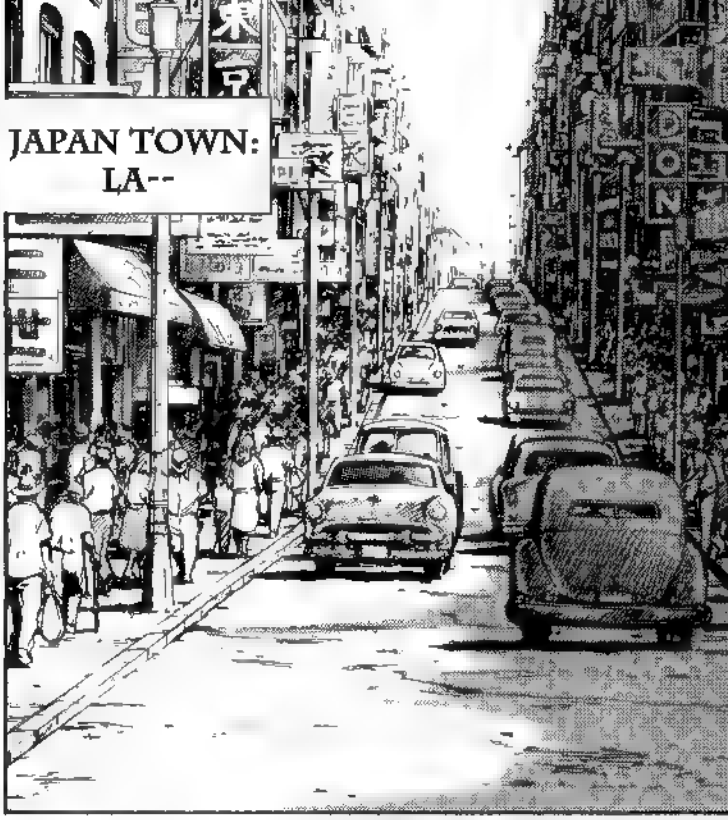
IT'S UN-FEASIBLE.
DON'T THINK ABOUT SUING AT THIS POINT.


BEVERLY HILLS--


MASTER CULKIN WILL MEET WITH NO ONE.

PLEASE LEAVE!!

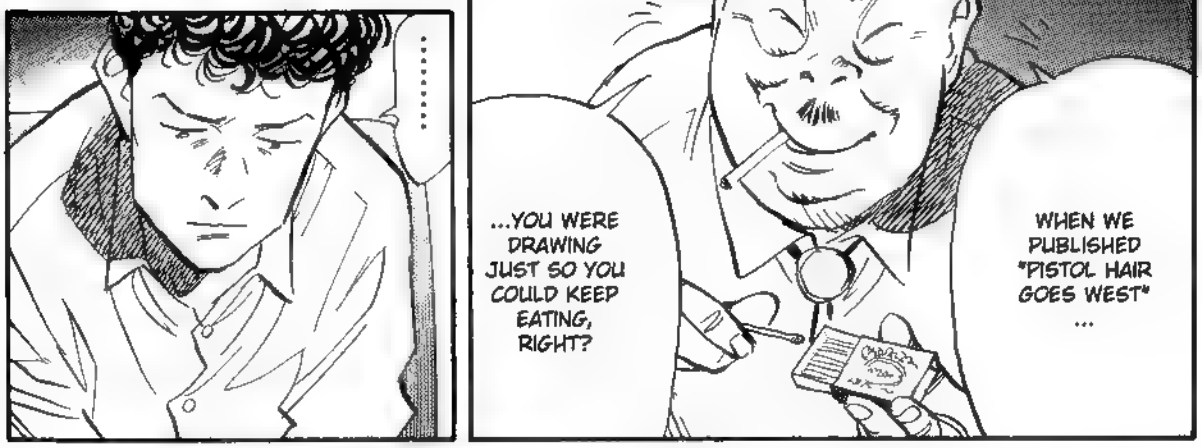

FUJIYAMA
PUBLISHING CO.

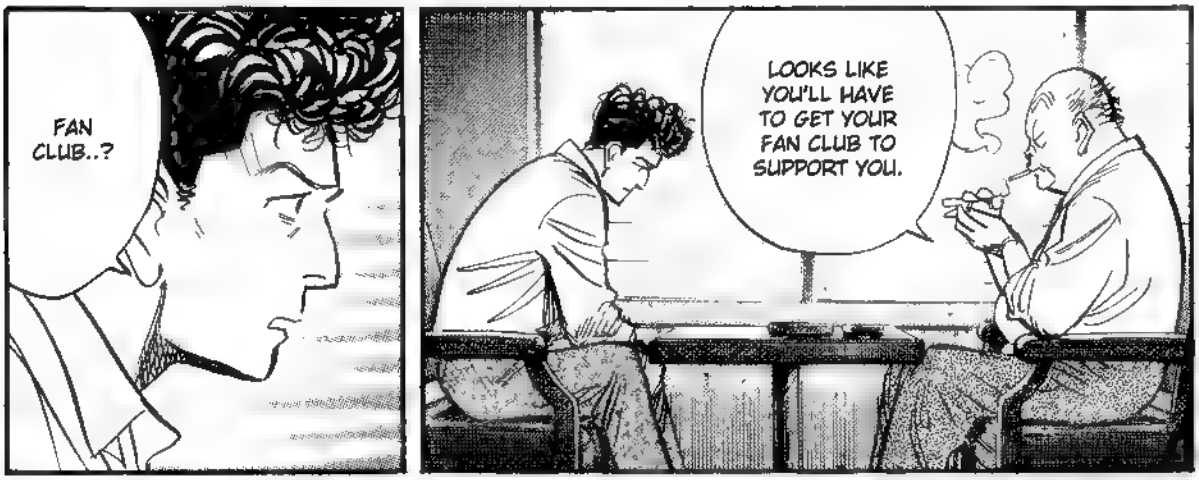

JAPAN TOWN:
LA--

WITH NO GOOD ENDING TO IT.

WELL, THAT'S A PRETTY SOB STORY.

BUT YOU KNOW, IF YOU THINK ABOUT THE OLDEN TIMES, A DISTRESS LIKE THAT ISN'T MUCH.


.....
...YOU WERE DRAWING JUST SO YOU COULD KEEP EATING, RIGHT?
WHEN WE PUBLISHED "PISTOL HAIR GOES WEST" ...

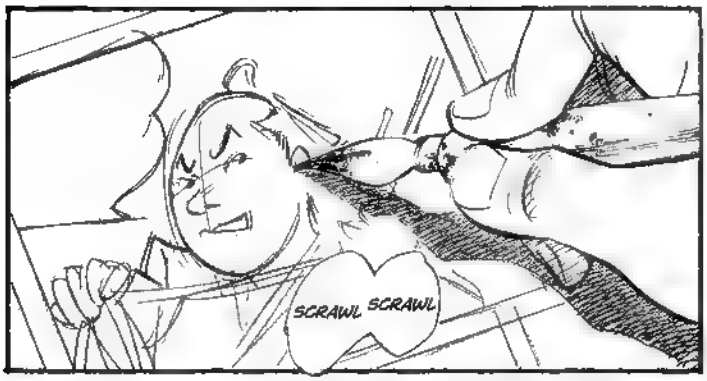

FAN CLUB..?
LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL HAVE TO GET YOUR FAN CLUB TO SUPPORT YOU.

.....
...BUT IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE PISTOL HAIR, I'D BE GLAD TO PUBLISH IT.
OH, YOU KNOW, THAT WESTERN-STYLE TOWN YOU USED AS A MODEL WHEN YOU WERE DRAWING PISTOL HAIR.
WE CAN STILL ONLY PUBLISH ENOUGH MANUSCRIPTS TO GO ON EATING OURSELVES HERE, ...

GAKONG
GAKONG
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THE DAY THAT WE COULD KEEP READING YOUR COMICS !!
WOOOOWEEE, THIS BRINGS BACK MEMORIES, DOC!!
YEAH, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT THAT CHUCK CULKIN BASTARD'S GONE AND SMEARED SHIT ALL OVER BILLY BAT.
SAM'S BAR

THE BILLY BAT HOUR!
HEY, THAT SHITHEAD'S SHOW IS ABOUT TO START.
AH...
TURN THAT OFF, PLEASE.
GET ON OUT HERE, YOU LILY-LIVERED PIG! I'M GONNA BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF!!
HOSTED EVERY WEEK BY THE FATHER OF BILLY BAT...
EVERY-ONE...
THANKS ...

I'LL DRAW ANOTHER GOOD MANGA WITH ALL MY HEART.

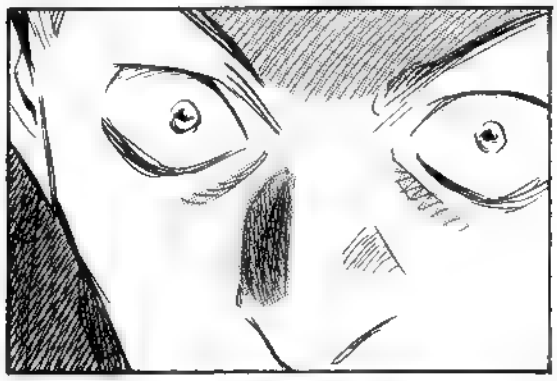

SCRAWL SCRAWL

SCRAWL
SCRAWL
SCRAWL

SCRAWL
SCRAWL

YO.

IS THIS REALLY WHAT YOU WANNA DRAW?
WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING?



IF I SAY GO AWAY, THEN GO AWAY.

YOU REALLY WANNA DRAW MY STORY, DON'T YOU?

WHAT DO YOU REALLY WANNA DRAW?
GO AWAY.

LISTEN UP, BUB. JUST LET THAT IMPOSTOR DO AS HE PLEASES.
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DRAW THE REAL THING.
SO GOOD YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GO WITHOUT DRAWING THE REST.
I'M GONNA TELL YOU THE REST OF THE PRESIDENT'S STORY. BOY IS IT A GOODIE!

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE THE IMPOSTOR AS OF NOW..
...SO YOU STARTED DRAWING THE NEW BILLY BAT.

TA-TAN
TA-TAN

ALRIGHT, THEN PROVE THAT YOU'RE THE REAL ONE.

I'M NOT AN IMPOSTOR.

THE BAT..
..TALKS ABOUT WHO THE REAL ONE IS.

WHERE'S OSWALD?
DALLAS.

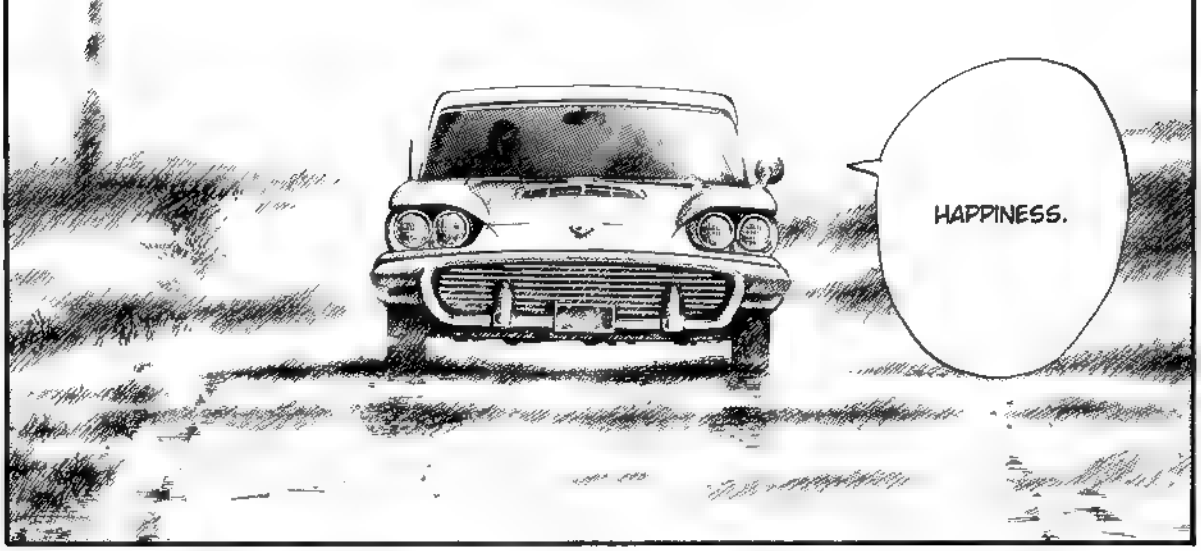
DON'T YOU WANT ANYTHING TO DRINK?
AHH, THAT DOES SOUND GOOD. I GUESS I'LL HELP MYSELF TO ONE, THEN.

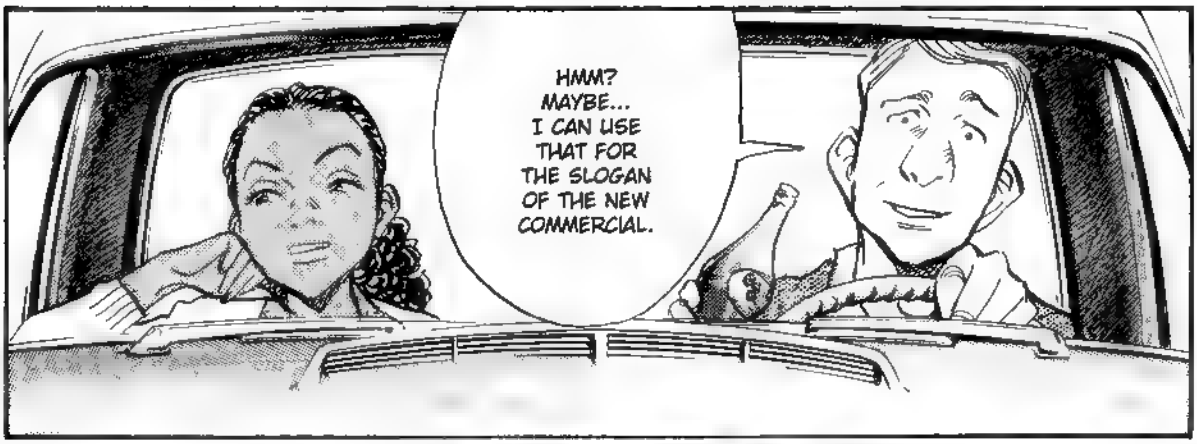
HERE YOU GO.
POP
Golden Cola
Golden Cola

NAW, THE THING WE'VE GOT MORE OF THAN WE CAN COUNT RIGHT NOW IS...
HOW ABOUT ANOTHER? WE'VE GOT MORE GOLDEN COLA THAN WE CAN COUNT BACK HERE.

GLUG
GLUG

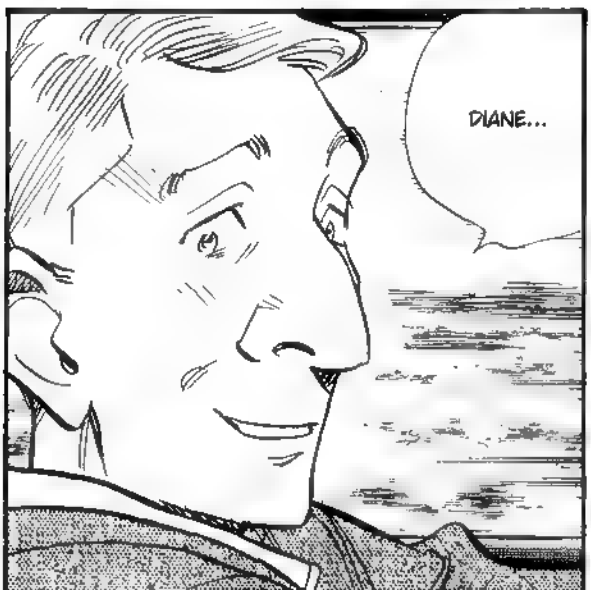
MMMM, THAT'S GOOD!!


HAPPINESS.


HMM? MAYBE... I CAN USE THAT FOR THE SLOGAN OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL.

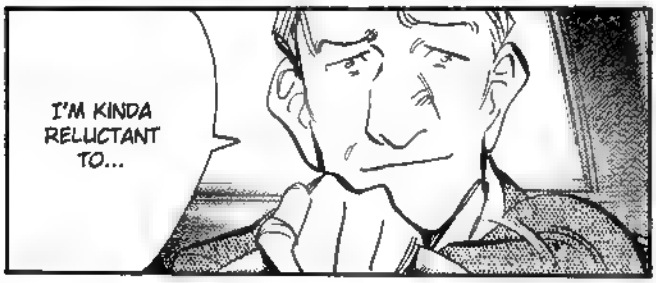
YOU SURE? I THINK IT'S PRETTY CLEVER.

NO WAY.

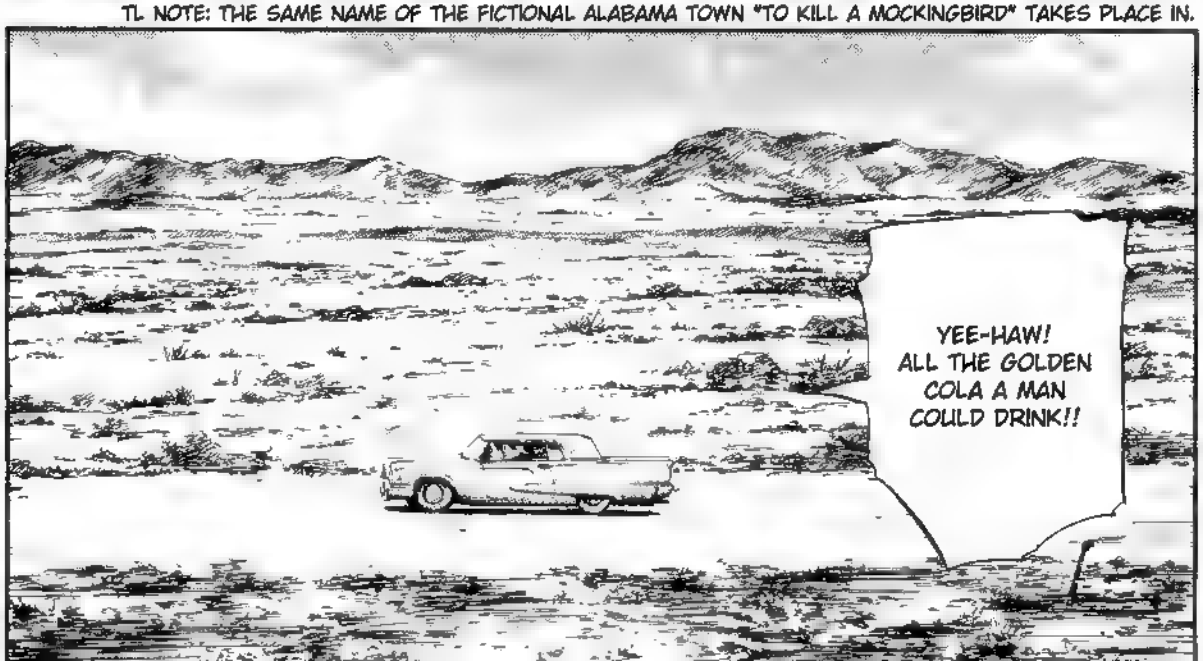

DIANE...

THAT'S GONNA BE THE NEW SLOGAN FOR US AND US ALONE.

CHAPTER 39 FIRE IN THE DEEP SOUTH



TL NOTE: THE SAME NAME OF THE FICTIONAL ALABAMA TOWN "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD" TAKES PLACE IN.



WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF DRIVING FROM FLORIDA TO DALLAS.
ON OUR HONEY-MOON.
GLUG
GLUG
...SO WHERE ARE YOU TWO HEADED, ANYWAY?
PAAAAAAHH!!
I WAS ACTUALLY JUST TRANS-FERRED, THAT'S ALL.
YOU TWO ARE MAN AND WIFE?!
HONEY-MOON?!
AIN'T THAT A MIGHTY FINE STORY !!
WELL IIIII'LL BE!!
...SO WE'RE USING THIS MOVE AS A CHANCE TO TAKE OUR HONEYMOON.
AFTER WE GOT MARRIED, WE HAD NO TIME TO GO TRAVELING, ...

HEY, BROTHER!! TAKE GOOD CARE OF THAT BEAUTIFUL BRIDE YOU GOT!!
S...SURE THING.
THIS IS A GREAT GENERATION WE'RE IN!!
TO SEE WHITE FOLK AND COLORED FOLK ALL TOGETHER LIKE THIS!!
...BUT I DON'T THINK OF IT LIKE THAT AT ALL.
PEOPLE SAY THIS TRANSFER TO DALLAS IS A DEMOTION...
LYNDON JOHNSON! THE MAN WHO WAS ANNOUNCED AS THE VICE-PRESIDENT CANDIDATE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, UNDER THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOHN F. KENNEDY.
JOHNSON ?
TEXAS IS WHERE JOHNSON'S FROM, AFTER ALL.

YOU KNOW, GOLDEN COLA IS THE #1 BEVERAGE IN THE TEXAS AREA.

HAH! IF KENNEDY EVER BECOMES PRESIDENT...
GOLDEN COLA ALSO CAMPAIGNED FOR JOHNSON, YOU KNOW.

WHEN MY MOMMA WAS RAISING US CHILDREN, THAT WAS ALL SHE EVER TALKED ABOUT ...
THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT..?

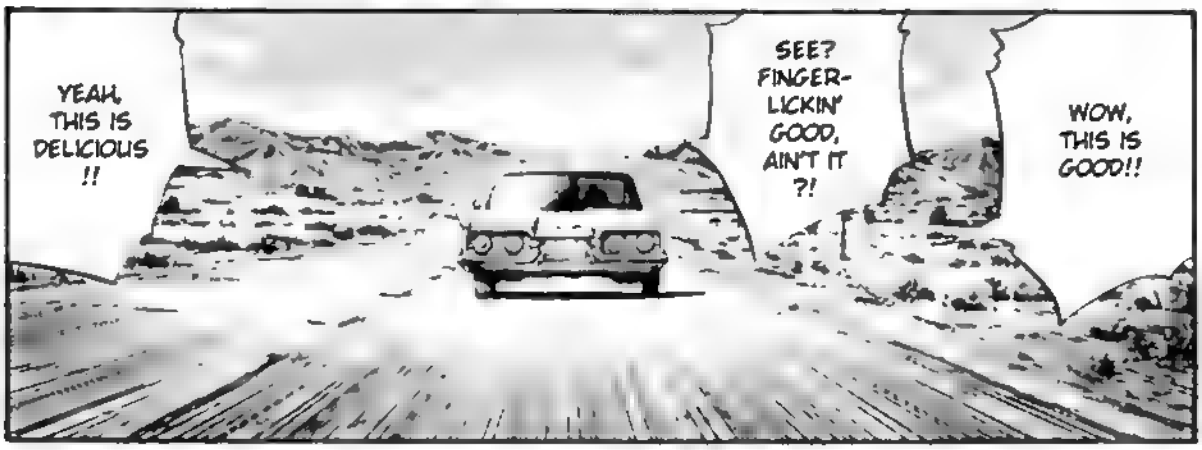
JOHNSON IS ALSO PROACTIVE ABOUT DOING AWAY WITH SEGREGATION AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT.

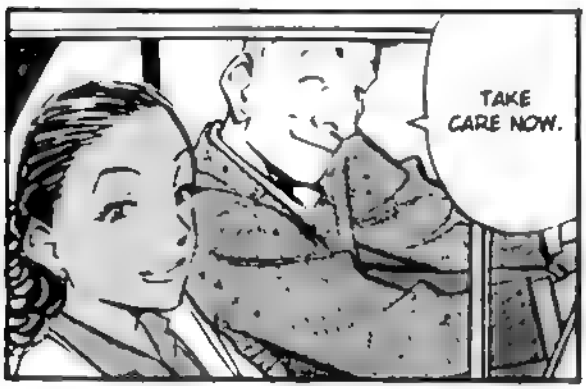
.....

WHERE IS YOUR MOTHER NOW..?

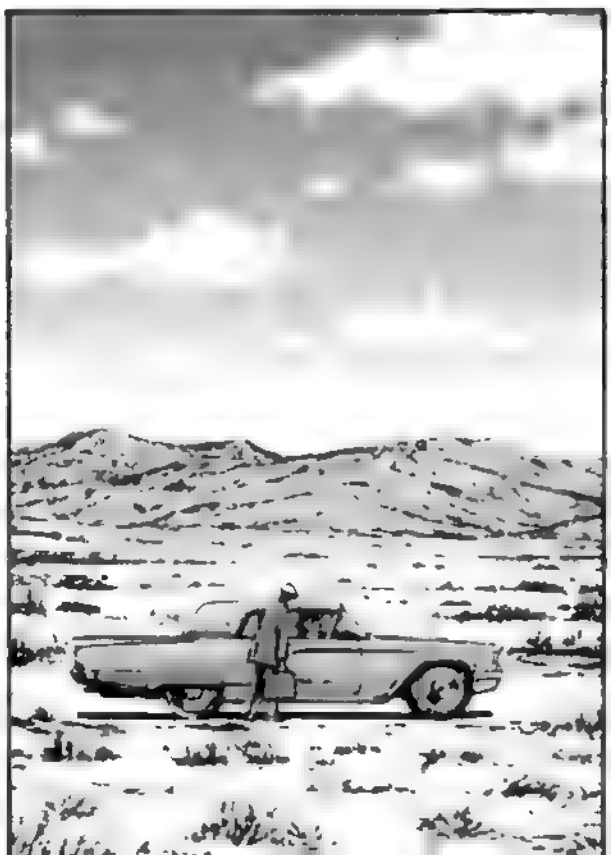
THAT SOMEDAY, THE DAY WOULD COME...

HEY, WANT SOME GOOD EATIN'? THIS IS MY MOMMA'S WORLD-FAMOUS CORNBREAD!!
SHE'S AS HEALTHY AS A HORSE!! SHE SAID SHE AIN'T GONNA DIE UNTIL THE "GOOD DAY" COMES!!


YEAH, THIS IS DELICIOUS !!
SEE? FINGER-LICKIN' GOOD, AIN'T IT ?!
WOW, THIS IS GOOD!!

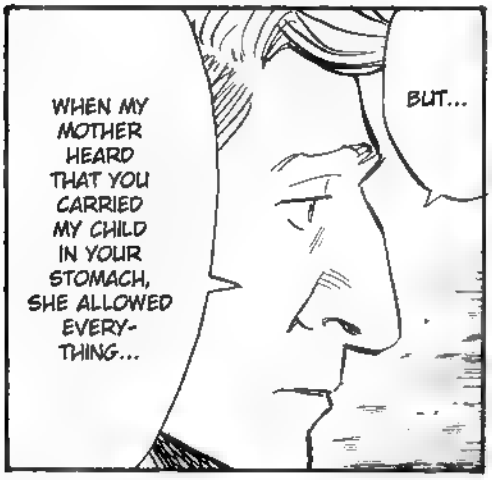

TAKE CARE NOW.

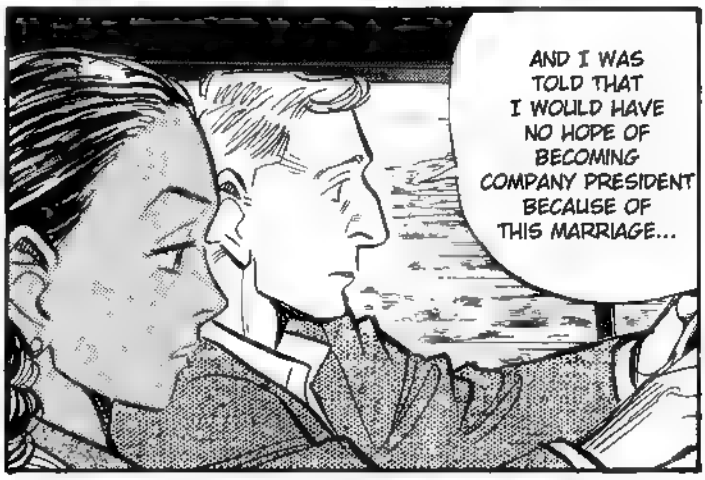
THAT'S MY LINE! BEAR SOME HEALTHY CHILDREN!!



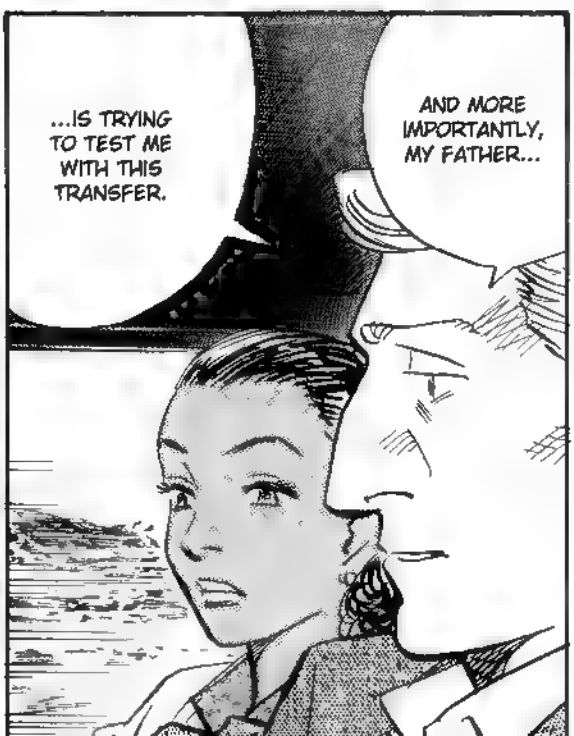
THAT'S RIGHT... THIS TRANSFER TO TEXAS ISN'T A DEMOTION.

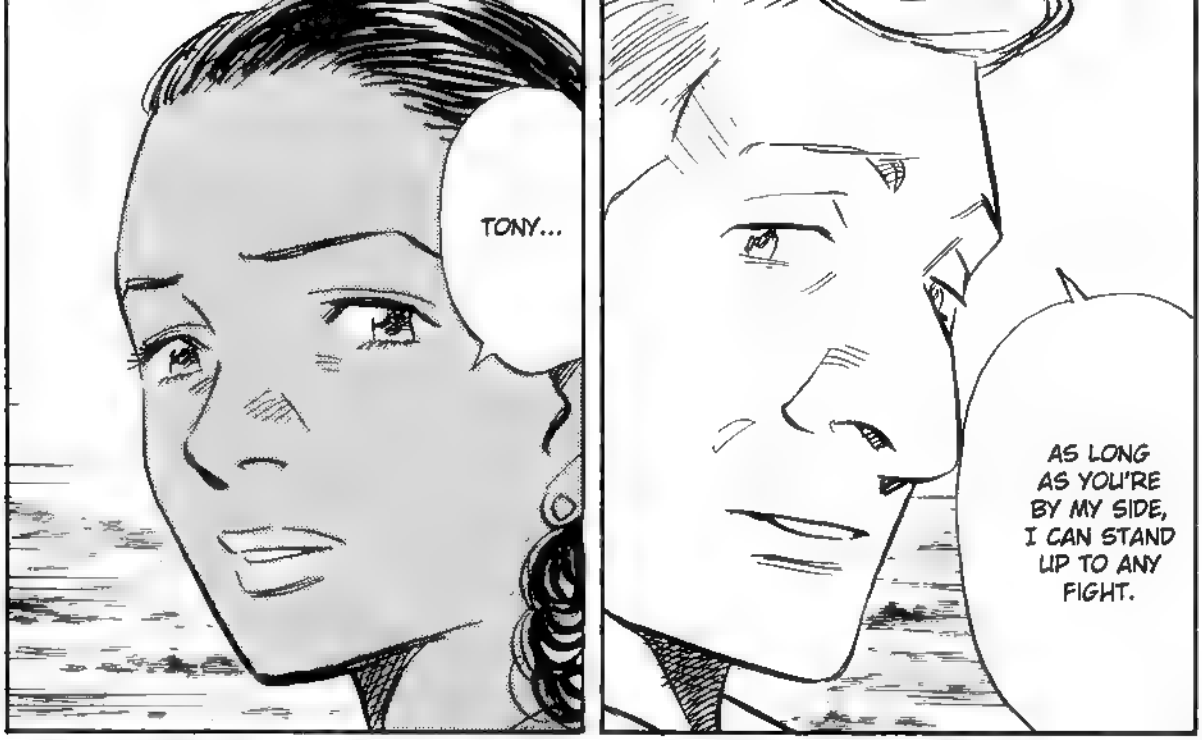
IT'S TRUE THAT THE ENTIRE FAMILY WAS AGAINST OUR WEDDING.

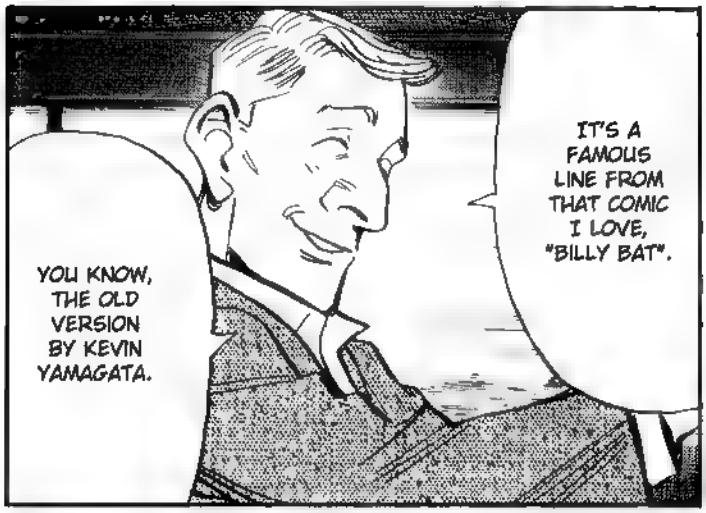

BUT...
WHEN MY MOTHER HEARD THAT YOU CARRIED MY CHILD IN YOUR STOMACH, SHE ALLOWED EVERY-THING...

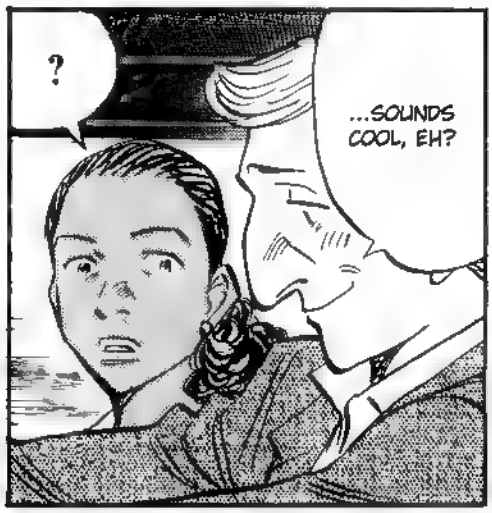

AND I WAS TOLD THAT I WOULD HAVE NO HOPE OF BECOMING COMPANY PRESIDENT BECAUSE OF THIS MARRIAGE...

I WOULDN'T HAVE IT ANY OTHER WAY ...


...IS TRYING TO TEST ME WITH THIS TRANSFER.
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, MY FATHER...


TONY...
AS LONG AS YOU'RE BY MY SIDE, I CAN STAND UP TO ANY FIGHT.


YOU KNOW, THE OLD VERSION BY KEVIN YAMAGATA.
IT'S A FAMOUS LINE FROM THAT COMIC I LOVE, "BILLY BAT".


?
...SOUNDS COOL, EH?

HA HA HA!!

OH, COME ON.

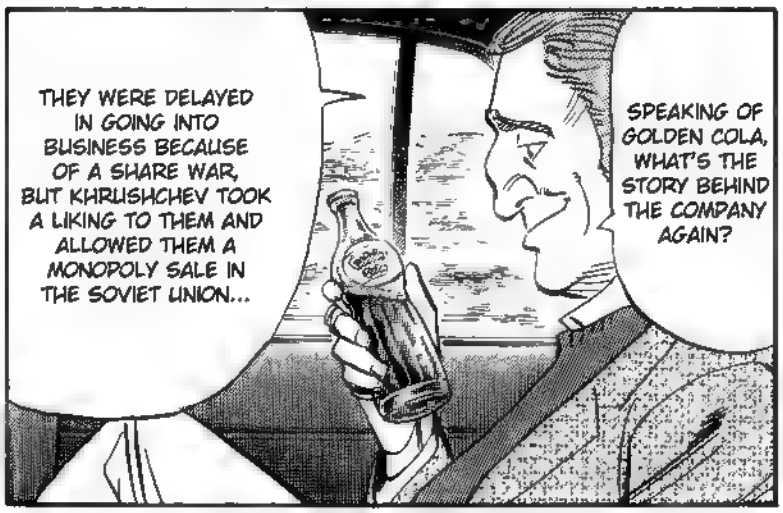
ANOTHER HITCHHIKER?
SKID
PALADIN... BUT HALFWAY IS FINE TOO.
WHERE TO?
PALADIN HAPPENS TO BE THE TOWN WE'RE PLANNING TO STAY IN TONIGHT.
SURE YOU DON'T MIND? THANKS.

LATELY, I CAN'T GO WITHOUT HAVING A BOTTLE.
WHAT A GOOD CUSTOMER!

GLUG
GLUG

HOO! ALL THE GOLDEN COLA I CAN DRINK... I SURE GOT IN THE RIGHT CAR.

HAHA...WELL, THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT RUMORS...


THEY WERE DELAYED IN GOING INTO BUSINESS BECAUSE OF A SHARE WAR, BUT KHRUSHCHEV TOOK A LIKING TO THEM AND ALLOWED THEM A MONOPOLY SALE IN THE SOVIET UNION...
SPEAKING OF GOLDEN COLA, WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THE COMPANY AGAIN?

NO MATTER HOW MANY FAR-FETCHED IDEAS THEY PUT TOGETHER ABOUT THE SOCIALIST REVOLUTION, THEY CAN NEVER BEAT GOOD TASTE.

RED OR NOT, GOOD COLA IS GOOD COLA.
SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT.

WELL SAID.
THAT'S HOW THE PRINCIPLES OF THE WORLD CHANGE, LITTLE BY LITTLE.
UP UNTIL NOW, I NEVER THOUGHT THE DAY WOULD COME WHEN I'D SEE A NEGRO AND A WHITE MAN TOGETHER.
I MEAN, YOU TWO ARE A PERFECT EXAMPLE.
YOU COULDN'T EVEN WALK OUTSIDE IN PEACE, COULD YOU?

TH... THANKS.
LET ME CONGRATULATE YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
THIS IS A JOYOUS THING.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.
A BONFIRE?
THERE'S GOING TO BE A BONFIRE CLOSE TO HERE TONIGHT.
HOW ABOUT STOPPING BY THE BONFIRE?
YEAH. THERE ISN'T ANYTHING ELSE TO SEE IN A TOWN LIKE PALADIN.

A GOOD MEMORY FOR YOUR HONEY-MOON.
IT'LL BE A GRAND EVENT
A BONFIRE, HUH..? THAT DOESN'T SOUND TOO BAD
SURE...
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
RUSTLE

GO AHEAD BY YOURSELF.
I'LL JUST STAY HERE.

BAM
YEP, RIGHT THROUGH HERE.
A BONFIRE, OUT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS..?

AH...
WHAT WILL YOU DO, DIANE?

OH...ALRIGHT, THEN I'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS I TAKE A PEEK.

!!

THIS REALLY DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A PLACE TO HAVE A BONFIRE, NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

DO IT, DO IT
YEAH, YEAH

WOAH

WHADDYA THINK?

YOU'RE RIGHT THERE'S A SHOCKING AMOUNT OF PEOPLE HERE

UUUAAA-
AHHHHH!!
UUUAAA-
AHHHHH!!

AHHHHHHHHHH!

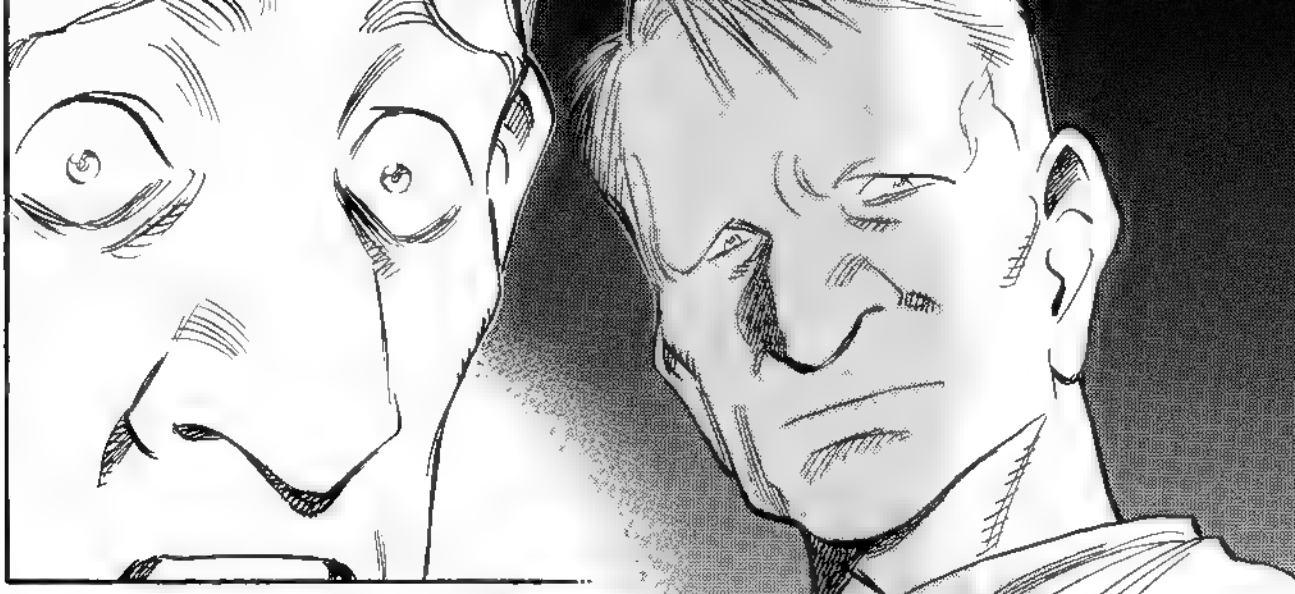
HAA
HAA
HAA
WH... WHAT'S WRONG?
SCREECH
SCREECH
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
WHAT'S WRONG?!

ARE YOU TELLING THE TRUTH ..?
SHIVER
SHIVER
NO!!
GO TO THE POLICE...
A COLORED MAN... A COLORED MAN WAS BEING BURNED...
Y...YEAH.
AND THE PLACE WE'RE IN NOW...
WE NEED TO HURRY UP AND RUN AWAY!! I CLEARLY SAW ONE OF THEIR FACES!
WHY NOT? SOMEONE WAS JUST KILLED!!
...IS THE SOUTH... THE DEEP SOUTH!!

TO THE POLICE "
JUST HURRY!!
SHERIFF
I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, MA'AM... BUT...

WHY?! A MAN WAS JUST...
I UNDER-STAND YOUR FEELINGS, BUT...
I'D ADVISE YOU NOT TO GET ANY MORE INVOLVED IN THIS
NOTHING, SIR.
AH.
WHAT'S WRONG, JESSE?
KLAK
KLAK
.....!!

SHERIFF



HUH?
W...WAIT A MOMENT.

ARE YOU THE SHERIFF?
JUST A MINUTE AGO, ON THE EDGE OF TOWN, THERE WAS A MURDER...

.....?

Y...YES, SIR...
HEY, JESSE.

IS THIS YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?

?
AH.. Y-YES...
JUST LISTEN!! THERE WERE A BUNCH OF HOODED WHITE MEN BURNING A COLORED...
E... EXCUSE US.
TH...THAT'S ENOUGH, DIANE...OK?
MMMM-PHHH!!

TELL THE SHERIFF EVERYTHING YOU SAW!!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, TONY?!
HE LOOKS JUST LIKE HIM...
...LOOKS JUST LIKE THE SHERIFF !!
THE MAN WHO MOTIONED FOR THEM TO BURN THAT COLORED MAN...
HUH?
HOW COULD A SHERIFF DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
IMPOS-SIBLE...

EVERYONE IN THIS TOWN LOOKS LIKE PEOPLE WHO WERE AT THAT BONFIRE..!!
BE QUIET..!!
I KNOW, SO THAT'S WHY I THINK IT'S DANGER-OUS.
WHA..?!
YOU'RE THE ONLY WITNESS HERE, SO...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, TONY? GET A HOLD OF YOUR-SELF!
I KNOW, I KNOW.
Y...YEAH...
SPUTTER SPUTTER
SPUTTER SPUTTER
FOR NOW WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE...
THIS ISN'T SOMETHING WE CAN TAKE CARE OF OUR-SELVES!!
TONY!!

SPUTTER SPUTTER
NO WAY!! C'MON, ENGINE!!
SPUTTER SPUTTER
WH... WHAT THE..?
AHHHHHH!!
THE ENGINE...
WHAT'S WRONG?
SPUTTER SPUTTER
SOMEONE DID THIS..!!

SOMEONE MADE IT SO THAT WE CAN'T ESCAPE!!
CHAPTER 40 HEAT OF THE NIGHT

I CAN'T TELL WHAT'S WRONG... BUT I CAN PULL IT OVER TO A REPAIRMAN FRIEND OF MINE FOR YOU.

BUT THE WHITES AROUND HERE HATE NEGROES.
I DON'T KNOW...

I'VE HEARD STORIES ABOUT THOSE MEN IN WHITE HOODS BEFORE.

...WHAT TONY SAW HAS BEEN HAPPENING FOR A WHILE ..?
THEN...

THAT'S WHY EVERYONE WAS STARING.
AND A WHITE AND NEGRO COUPLE LIKE YOU WALKING AROUND IS JUST UN-THINKABLE.

AROUND THESE PARTS, WHITES AND NEGROES BEING ON EQUAL GROUND IS STILL A DREAM WITHIN A DREAM.

CLICK CLICK
AH, IT'S THE DISTRIBUTOR THAT'S THE PROBLEM HERE.

I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIX IT 'TIL NOON TOMOR-ROW.

Wilson's

THE PARTS SHOP DON'T OPEN 'TILL MORNING.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YA PAY ME, I CAN'T DO WHAT I CAN'T DO.
TOMORROW?! CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING NOW? I'LL PAY YOU EXTRA!!

UMM...
BUT PLEASE, THERE MUST BE SOME-THING..!!

HEY, YOU'RE THE MISSUS FROM DAVIS' PLACE, RIGHT? WHAT YOU DOIN' OUT SO LATE?

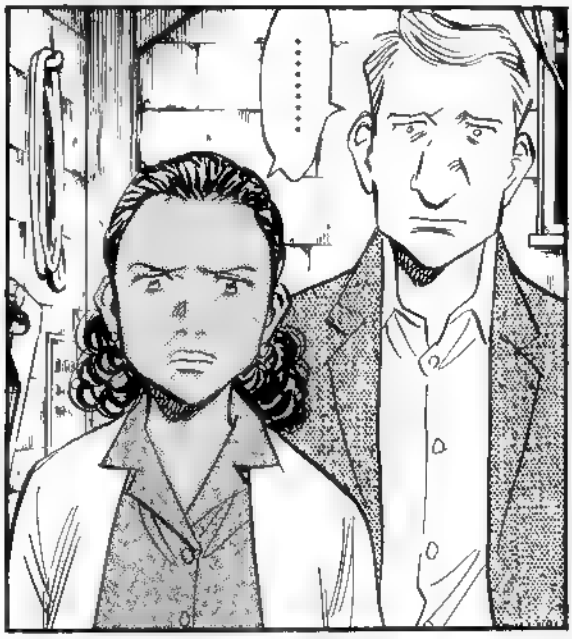
HAVE YOU SEEN MY HUSBAND?
HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO LOOK AT THE HORSES, AND HASN'T COME HOME.

WEIRD THINGS BEEN HAPPENIN' LATELY...
YEAH, WELL, EVEN IF A MAN STOPS HITTIN' THE BOTTLE, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE HE'LL WANNA...
HE AIN'T JUST OUT HITTIN' THE BOTTLE?
HE DON'T DRINK NO MORE.
BUT THERE HAVE BEEN A LOTTA MESSY LETTERS SENT TO US.
I'M UN-EDUCATED, SO I DON'T UNDERSTAND MUCH..
WEIRD THINGS?
...HE STARTED READIN' THOSE BOOKS.
IT'S ALL 'CUZ, YOU KNOW...
AND ROCKS THROWN THROUGH OUR WINDOWS

EVER SINCE THEN, HE'S NEVER STOPPED TALKIN' ABOUT CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT THIS, CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT THAT ...
YOU KNOW, LIKE REVEREND KING'S BOOKS ...

BOOKS?

AHH... MMM...
IN ANY CASE... I DON'T THINK STANDING OUT HERE IN THE NIGHT WIND WILL BE GOOD FOR EITHER OF US...


.....

TAKE US... WHERE?

FOR THE TIME BEING, YOU TWO SHOULD COME TO MY HOUSE ...

PLEASE GET IN, EVERYONE. I'LL TAKE Y'ALL HOME.

IT'S ALRIGHT. YOUR HUSBAND WILL COME HOME FINE, JUST TRY TO GET SOME REST.

EVEN IF SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED TO HER HUSBAND...

VROOOM

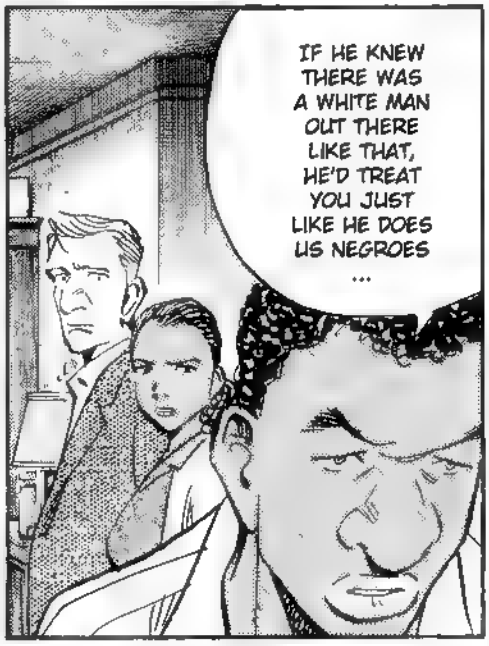
THINGS LIKE THIS HAPPEN ALL THE TIME
...THERE'S NO WAY IT'D BECOME A CASE

THIS IS MY WIFE, SHEILA.

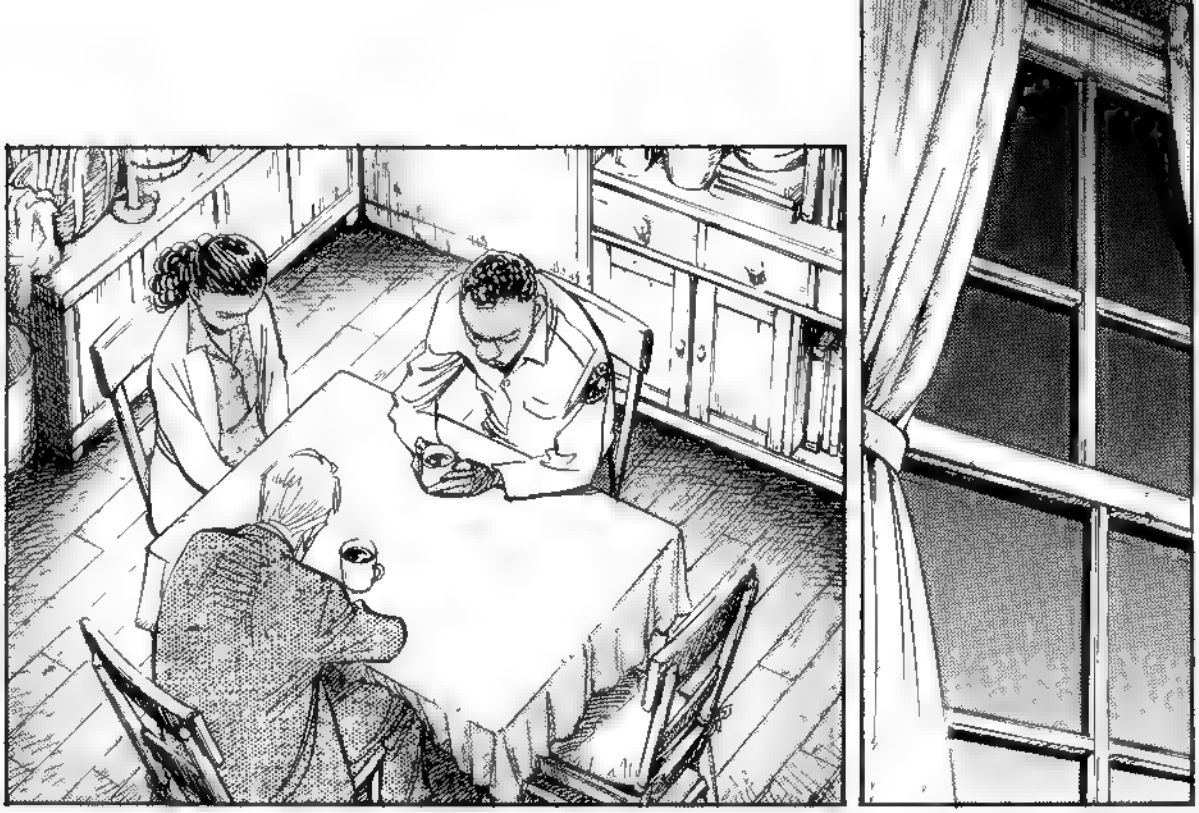
THE SHERIFF ASKED ME IF YOU WERE MY GIRLFRIEND, AND I DIDN'T DENY IT, RIGHT?

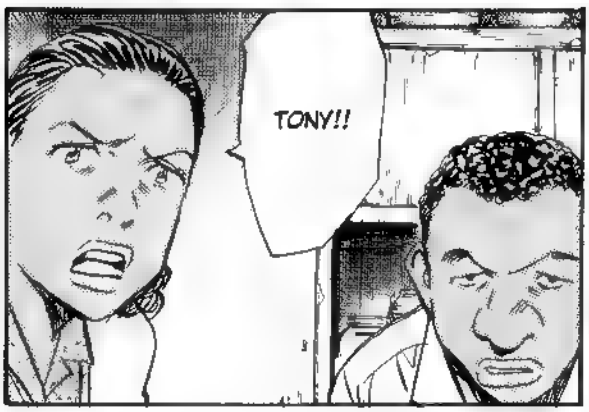
SORRY TO BARGE IN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
NAW, WE GOTTA HELP EACH OTHER OUT WHEN WE NEED IT, RIGHT?

.....


IF HE KNEW THERE WAS A WHITE MAN OUT THERE LIKE THAT, HE'D TREAT YOU JUST LIKE HE DOES US NEGROES ...

A WHITE AND NEGRO COUPLE ...
HE WOULD NEVER ACCEPT THIS.




TONY!!

ANYWAY, AS SOON AS THE CAR IS FIXED TOMORROW, I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE.

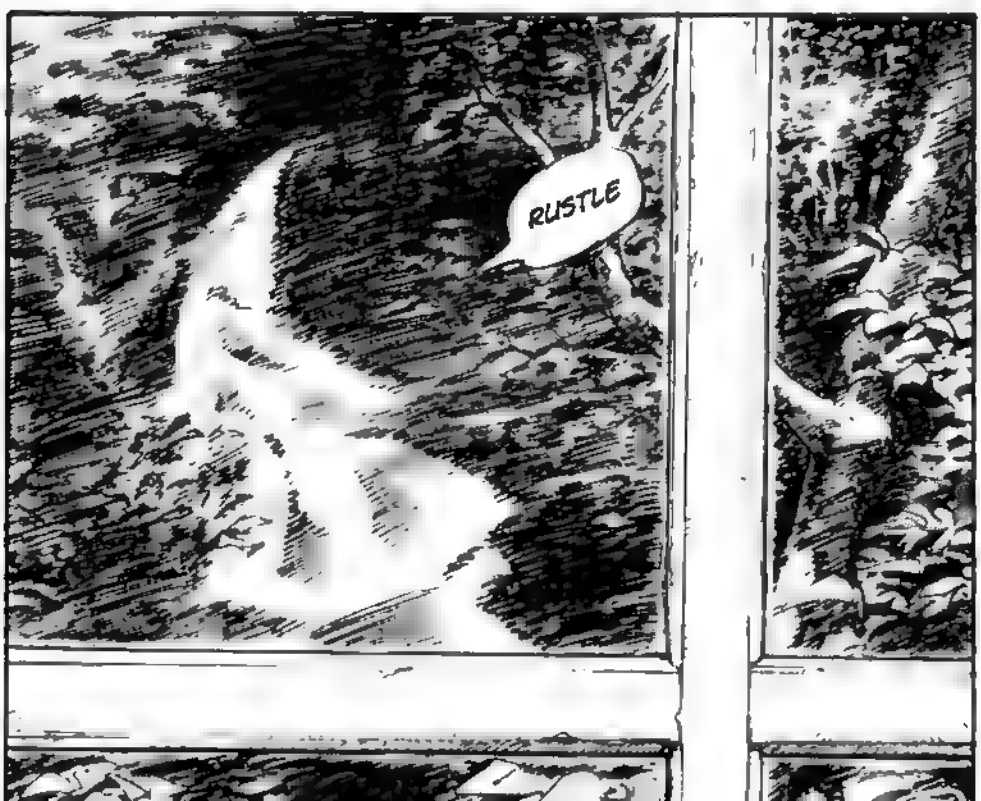
HE'S THE MAIN DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, SO I'M SURE HE'LL DO SOMETHING!!
ONCE WE GET TO DALLAS, I'M GOING TO TELL THE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE MR. JOHNSON ABOUT THIS.

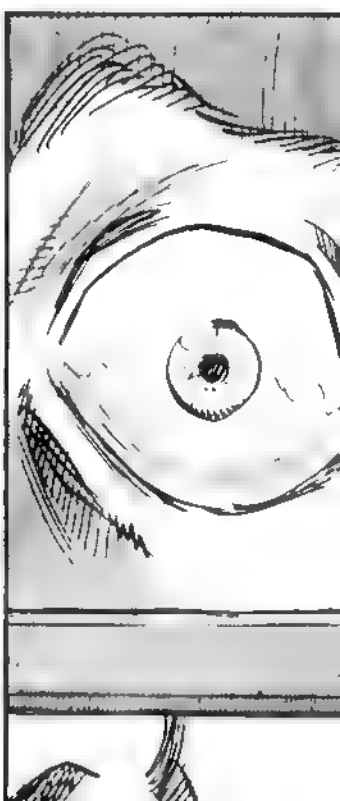
N...NO, JUST LISTEN. I'M NOT RUNNING.

IS THERE ANY OTHER WAY?
IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

AND ON TOP OF THAT, THEY SAW MY FACE...

THIS ISN'T SOMETHING WE CAN HANDLE BY OURSELVES !!


RUSTLE



AH... AH...
WHAT'S WRONG?!
J...JUST NOW, THERE WAS A WHITE HOOD OUTSIDE..!!
REALLY?!
I JUST SAW A FLASH, SO I'M NOT SURE, BUT...!!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO GO MEET WITH JOHNSON.
HUH?
IS THERE ANYONE AMONG THE WHITES WHO WILL SIDE WITH THE NEGROES?
IS THERE ANYONE IN THIS TOWN WHO CAN REPLACE HIM?

AND HE DOESN'T DISCRIMINATE?
MAYBE MR. RONALD ...
HE'S A TOWN COUNCILMAN WHO ALSO RUNS A DINER. MR. RONNIE BURNS...
HE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHAT WE'RE SAYING...
COMPAR-ATIVELY SO...
YOU STAY HERE!!
NO!!
OKAY. TAKE ME TO HIS HOUSE.
YOU HAVE OUR PRECIOUS CHILD IN YOUR STOMACH.
LEAVE THIS TO ME.

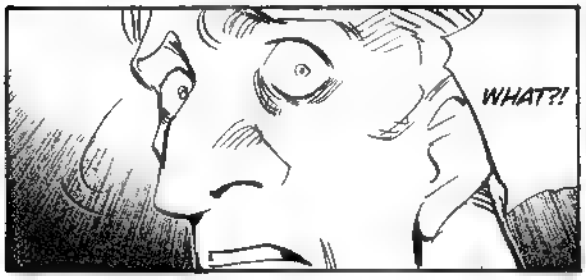
Ronnie's DINER

BZ-
BZZT

LET'S WAIT HERE FOR A WHILE...

HUH..? THE LIGHTS ARE ALL ON BUT THERE'S NO ONE IN HERE?

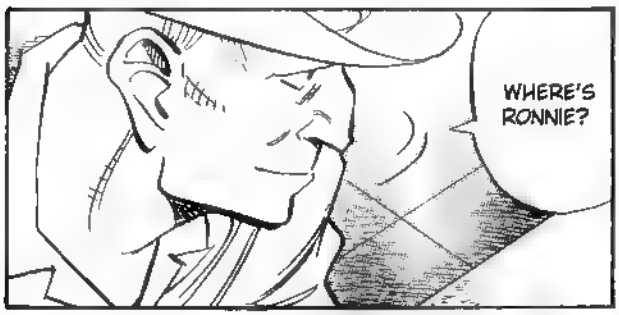
THE SHERIFF..!!


WHAT?!

RUSTLE

AND THE GUY FROM BEFORE ...
HEY, JESSE.

CREAK


WHERE'S RONNIE?

HE SEEMS TO BE OUT NOW...SIR...

.....
WHAT ARE YOU LOAFING AROUND HERE FOR?

HMMMM ...
!!
OHH, SORRY ABOUT THAT. I HAD TO STEP OUT FOR A BIT.
THANKS FOR GIVING ME A RIDE BACK THERE.
WELL, I'LL BE... ISN'T THIS A COIN-CIDENCE

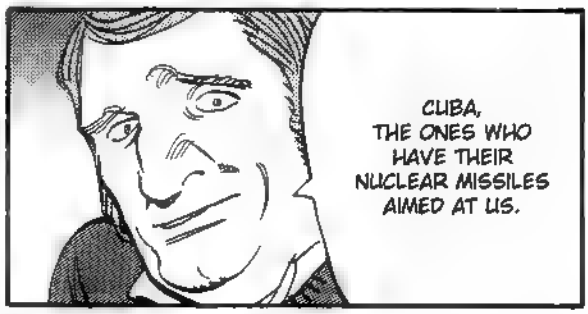
HE PICKED ME UP WHEN I WAS HITCHHIKING. REALLY HELPED ME OUT.
.....!!
OHH, YOU KNOW THIS FELLOW, RONNIE?
HE'S ALSO THE ONE WHO MADE ME INTO A SHERIFF.
RONNIE AND I GO WAY BACK.
.....
S...SURE... W...WATER...
WANT SOMETHING TO DRINK?

!!
HEY, DID YOU HEAR? THIS BOY'S WIFE IS A NIGGER.
HRRMM.
AND SHE'S GOT A BABY IN HER TUMMY...
CLACK
COUGH COUGH COUGH
AHH..!!
HAHAHA
BFFH
WHAT?!
COUGH COUGH

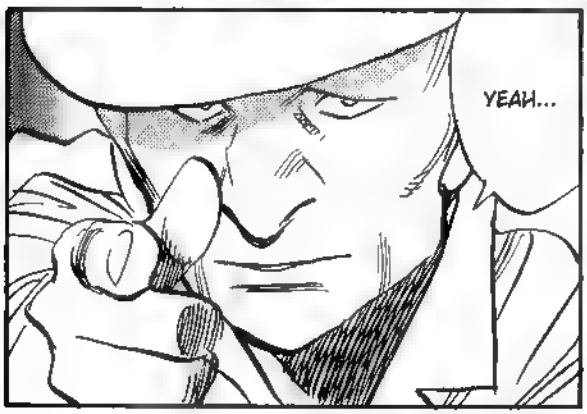
IF ONLY I WOULD HAVE KNOWN...
OH MY GOD...
IT... IT'S FINE...
RONNIE WAS THE MAN WHO TOOK YOU TO THE BONFIRE..?!
COUGH COUGH
STAG-GER
THERE'S NOTHING ANY OF US CAN DO...
TH... THERE'S NOTHING YOU COULD HAVE DONE.
IT'S NO USE...

I HAVE A DREAM!!
WHERE BLACK PEOPLE!! WHITE PEOPLE!! AND YELLOW PEOPLE!!
ARE ALL SMILING TOGETHER !!
THAT'S THE KIND OF WORLD I DREAMED ABOUT!!
THERE'S NO WAY A SHIT WORLD LIKE THAT WOULD EVER EXIST.
NAH. A PIECE OF IT DOES.

REVEREND KING, OR WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS...


CUBA, THE ONES WHO HAVE THEIR NUCLEAR MISSILES AIMED AT US.

HEH... GOOD POINT.


YEAH...

HE'S GONNA BE SEEIN' FLAMES SOON.

AAAAAHHHH!!

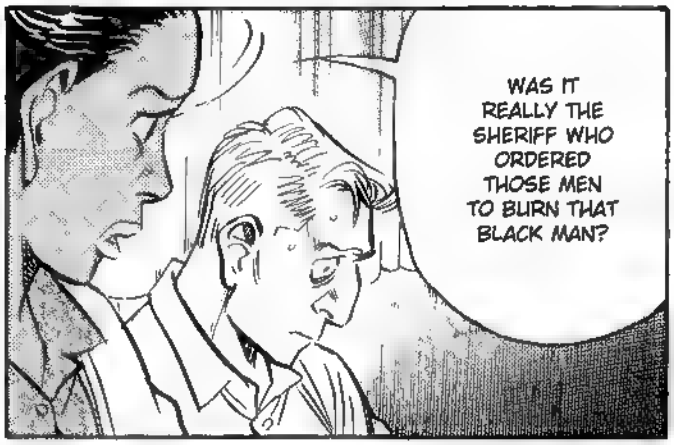
AAAAAHHHHH!
WAAAAHHHH!!
Y...YEAH, SORRY...
YOU WERE SLEEPING, WEREN'T YOU, DIANE? SORRY FOR WAKING YOU ...
CREAK
TONY!!
YOU ALRIGHT?! I JUST HEARD A SCREAM...

ABOUT WHAT..?
CAN YOU DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?

YOU CAN'T HELP IT. YOU WITNESSED A HORRIBLE THING LAST NIGHT...

MORE IMPORTANTLY, YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THE BABY...
IT'S ALRIGHT... IT'S ALRIGHT NOW.

Y...YEAH, IT WAS DARK, BUT IT WAS DEFINITELY HIS FACE I SAW...


WAS IT REALLY THE SHERIFF WHO ORDERED THOSE MEN TO BURN THAT BLACK MAN?

THERE ARE TWO DEPUTIES, BUT...

BUT..?

IS THERE ANYONE AT THE STATION OTHER THAN THE SHERIFF THAT WILL LISTEN TO US?

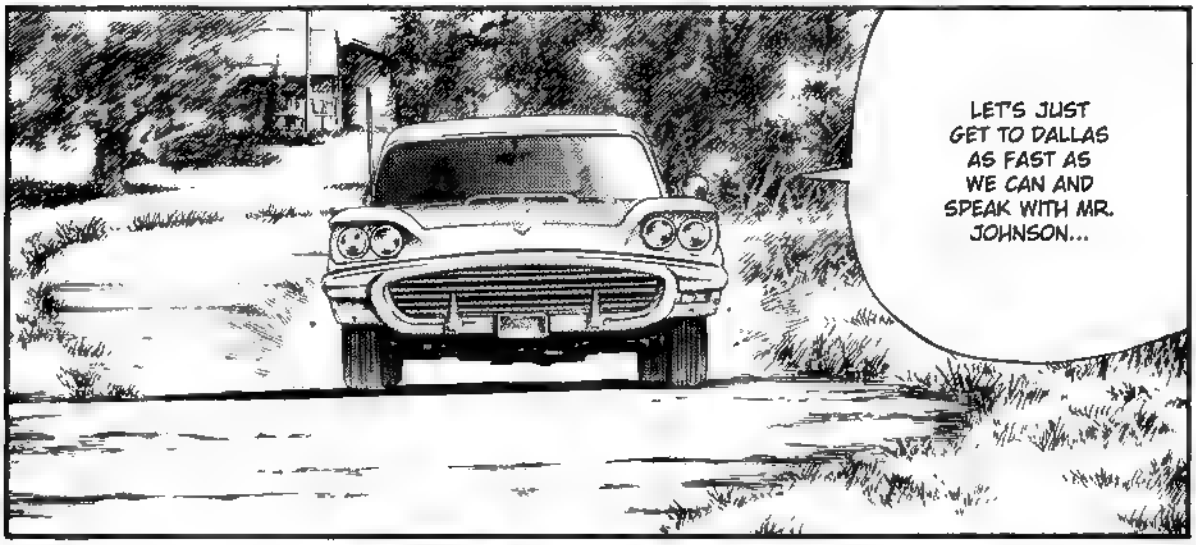
MA'AM YOU'RE A NEGRO YOURSELF, AREN'T YOU?
YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND
I DON'T THINK IT WILL DO ANYTHING
HOW DO YOU KNOW UNTIL YOU TRY?
WHY
BUT UNLESS SOMEONE STARTS SOMETHING, NOTHING WILL CHANGE.
I HAVE A DREAM!!

CHAPTER 41 DEEP SOUTH DREAMS

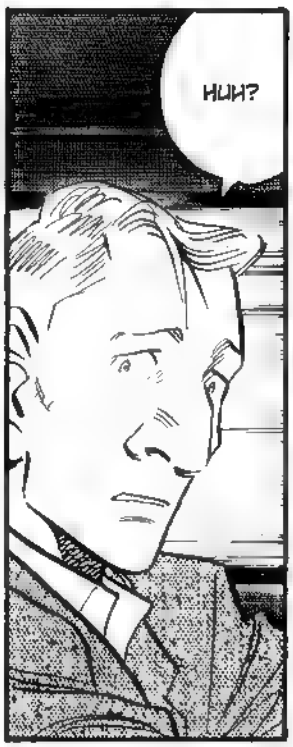
SHERIFF
LI... LIMMM...
WHAT, JESSE?
SHERIFF
Y... YES, SIR!
HEY, JESSE!!
HOW SHOULD I SAY THIS...
LIMM... EXCUSE ME, DEPUTIES...
WE'RE ON PATROL..!!
GET OVER HERE FOR A MINUTE.
Y...YES, SHERIFF?

Y...YESSIR.
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO ACCEPTED THIS NEGRO INVESTIGATION REQUEST?
START THE INVESTIGATION AFTER 48 HOURS HAVE PASSED.
THEY SAID SOMETHING ABOUT SOME OTHER COLORED MAN.
THAT WHITE AND NEGRO COUPLE.
Y...YESSIR.
THAT REMINDS ME...
I...I DON'T KNOW!!
.....
WHERE ARE THEY RIGHT NOW?

YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING, AREN'T YOU?
VROOM VROOOOM
Wilsons
HEHEH! THAT ABOUT DOES HER.
FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR WIFE'S BABY.
FORGET THE TIP, YOU SHOULD JUST HAUL ASS OUTTA HERE AS FAST AS YA CAN.
VROOOOOOM
THANKS, YOU'VE REALLY SAVED US.


LET'S JUST GET TO DALLAS AS FAST AS WE CAN AND SPEAK WITH MR. JOHNSON...

THE WOMAN WHO WAS SEARCHING FOR HER HUSBAND LAST NIGHT...


HUH?

IF I TELL HIM ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT, HE'S BOUND TO DO SOMETHING.

STOP BY THAT LADY'S PLACE.

HUH?

SHE'S PREGNANT TOO...

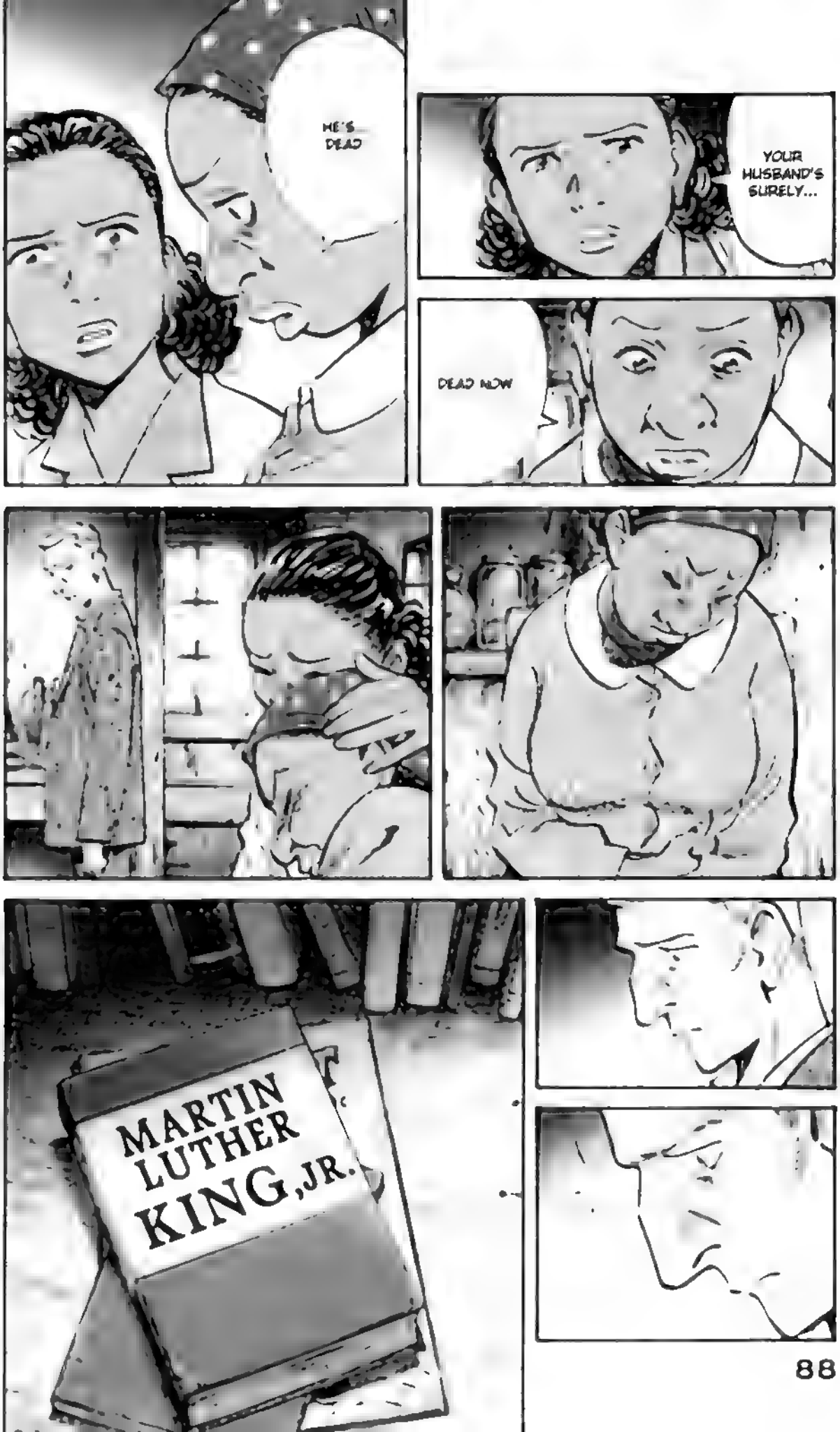
DIDN'T YOU NOTICE?

N...NO...

WE'RE GOING TO LEAVE TOWN NOW, BUT WE'LL DEFINITELY BE BACK AGAIN.

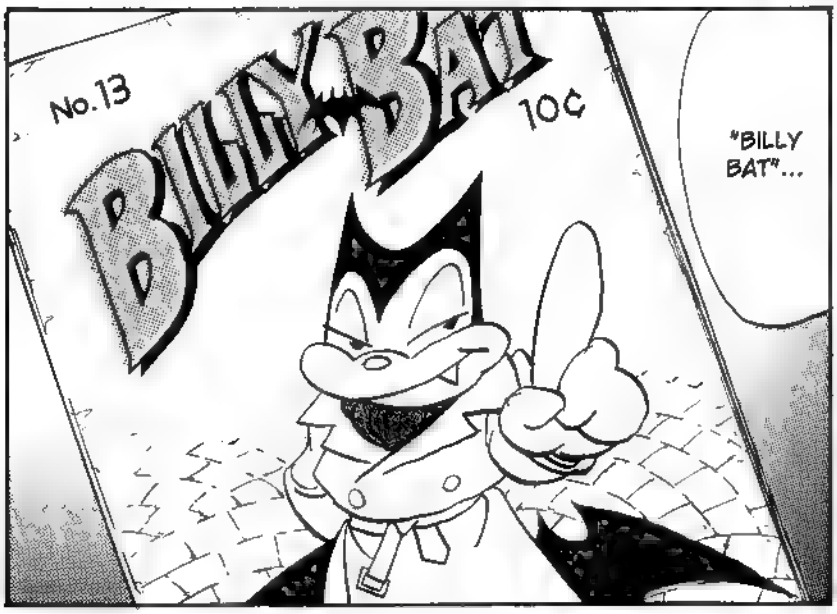
WE'LL GET A STRONG INTERMEDIARY BEHIND US, AND THEN UNCOVER THE TRUTH.

THANK YOU FOR COMIN' ALL THE WAY HERE.


HE'S DEAD
YOUR HUSBAND'S SURELY...
DEAD NOW
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

No.13
BILLY BAT
10¢
THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

SO HE WAS READING THIS ...
REVEREND KING'S BOOK...

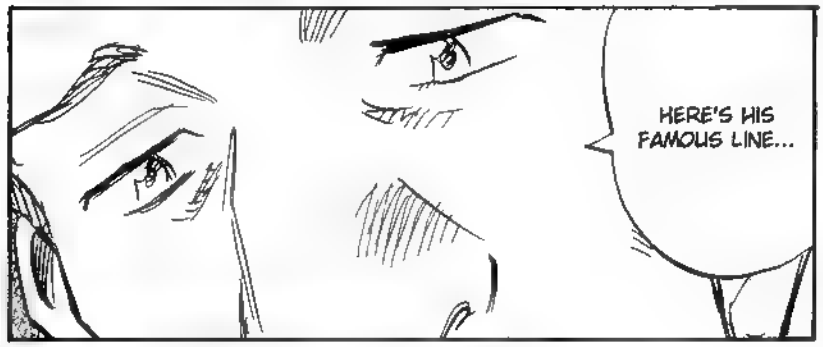

No.13
BILLY BAT
10¢
"BILLY BAT"...

Uncle Benny's
FUN SHOP

HE LOVED THAT COMIC, HE ALWAYS READ IT.

AND IT'S KEVIN YAMAGATA'S VERSION...

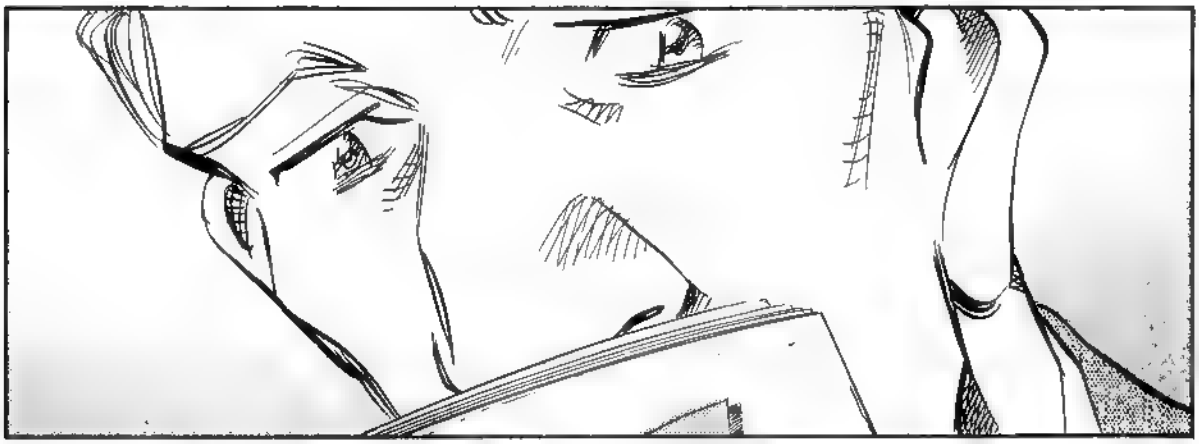
I LOVE IT TOO...

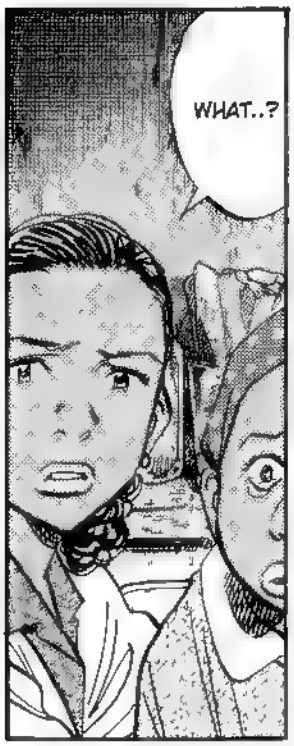

HERE'S HIS FAMOUS LINE...

YEAH...

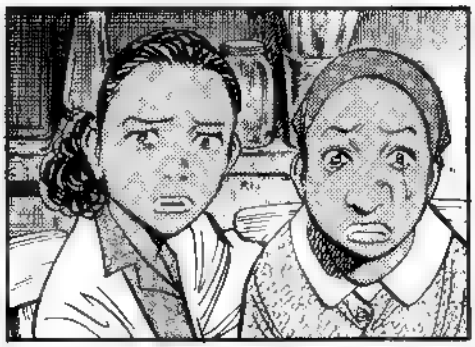
JUSTICE ISN'T SOMETHING YOU THINK ABOUT WITH YOUR HEAD.

JUSTICE IS BORN FROM WORKING WITH BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS.

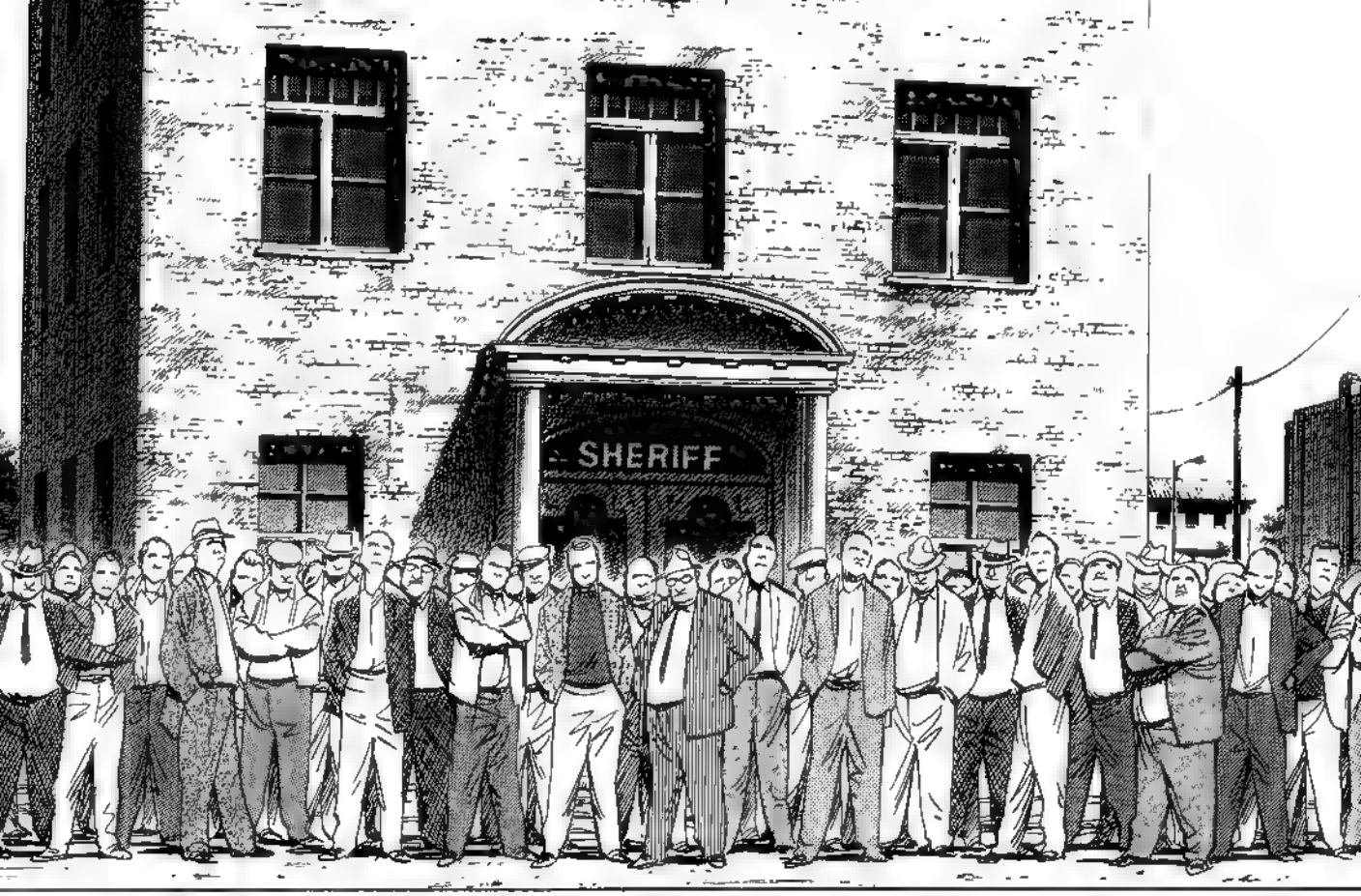



WHAT..?

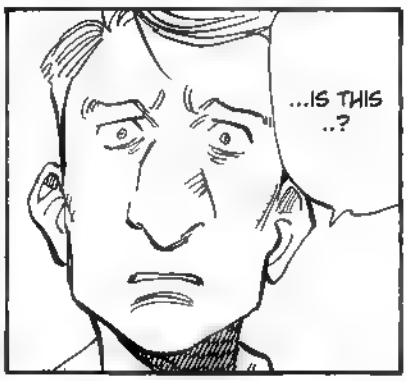
DIANE... YOU STAY HERE.



AHH... TONY!!
"JUSTICE ISN'T SOMETHING YOU THINK ABOUT WITH YOUR HEAD."
WHAT...
CRUNCH
WH...
RUSTLE


SHERIFF

SO YOU DID COME BACK AFTER ALL.


...IS THIS ..?

I WANT TO TALK TO THE SHERIFF.
LET ME THROUGH.

KLAK
KLAK

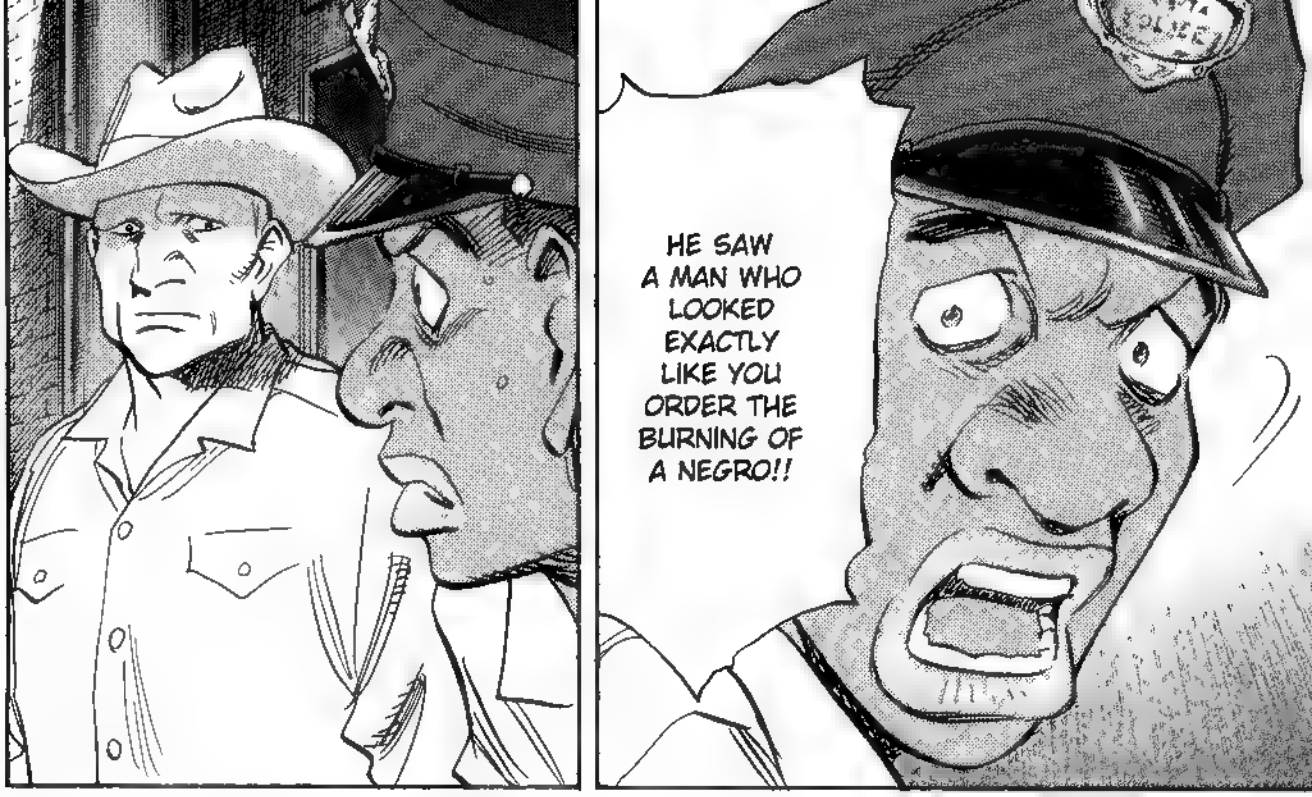
HURRY UP AND GET YOUR LITTLE BLACK FRIEND OUT OF THIS TOWN.

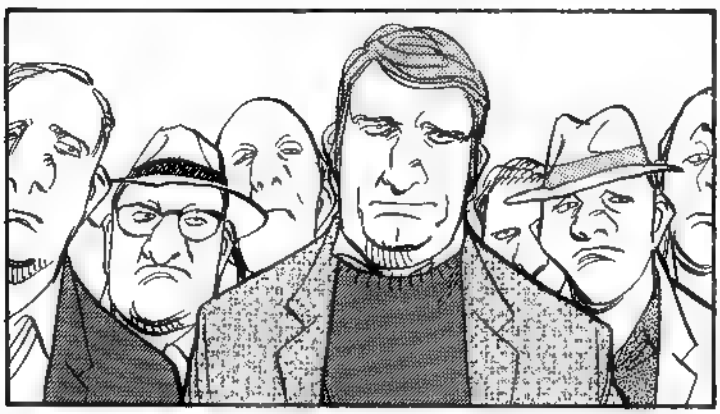
I'M... USED TO THIS STUFF.
HAAAA HA HA HA!
...END UP JUST LIKE THEM!!
ALL BASTARDS WHO SIDE WITH NIGGERS...
I'VE EVEN PARTED A CROWD BEFORE, JUST LIKE IN "THE TEN COMMANDMENTS" ...
GUBOHH!!

...IS BORN FROM BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS.
JUSTICE...
HAHAHA!
YOU LITTLE !!
WHAT'S THAT?!
LET ME THROUGH.
STOP...
STO...
SLAM
HAA..!!
GAH

SLAM
GAH
GOH
STOP...
SO MOSES THINKS HE'S JESUS CHRIST, HUH?
MR. TONY...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

UUU...
YOU...
MURDERER ...
N...NO.
WHAT'S WRONG? HURRY IT UP.
ARREST HIM, JESSE.
H...HE SAW IT!!

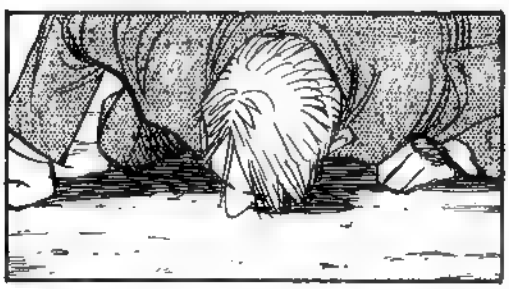

HE SAW A MAN WHO LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE YOU ORDER THE BURNING OF A NEGRO!!

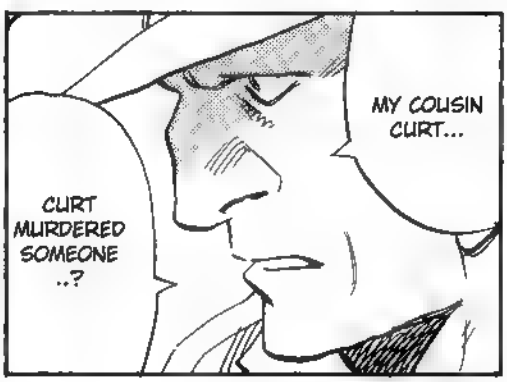


A MAN JUST LIKE ME...

JESSE.
Y...YES, SIR.

.....




MY COUSIN CURT...
CURT MURDERED SOMEONE ..?

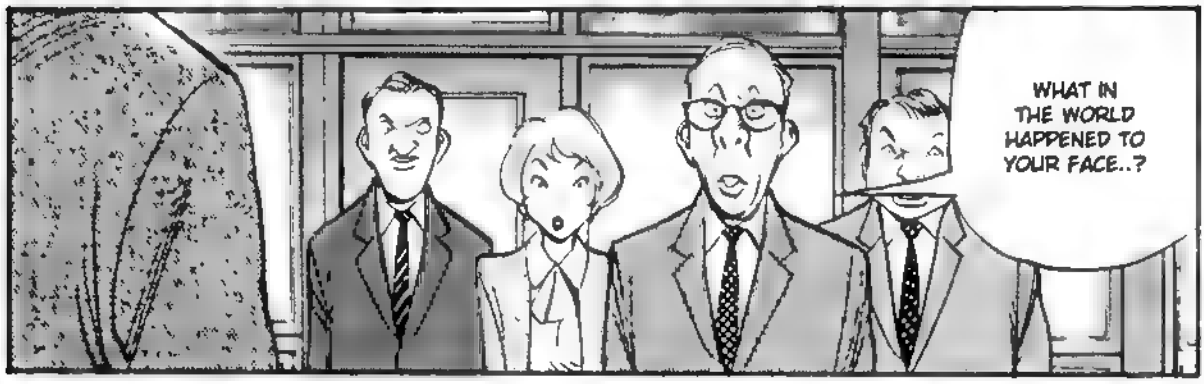
AND SHOOT ANYONE WHO TRIES ANY FUNNY BUSINESS.
PROTECT THIS MAN.
...BUT MURDER IS A DIFFERENT MATTER!!
I HATE NIGGERS, ...
WE'RE GOING TO GO ARREST CURT NOW.
Y...YES, SIR.
TONY!!
EVERYONE PUT YOUR HANDS ON YOUR HEADS!!

"UNLESS SOMEONE STARTS SOMETHING, NOTHING WILL CHANGE."
TONY!!
YOUR HUSBAND DID AN EXCELLENT JOB!!

WE'RE FINALLY HERE!!
Dallas
1/2 MILE
IN DALLAS !!

OUR NEW BRANCH PRESIDENT ...

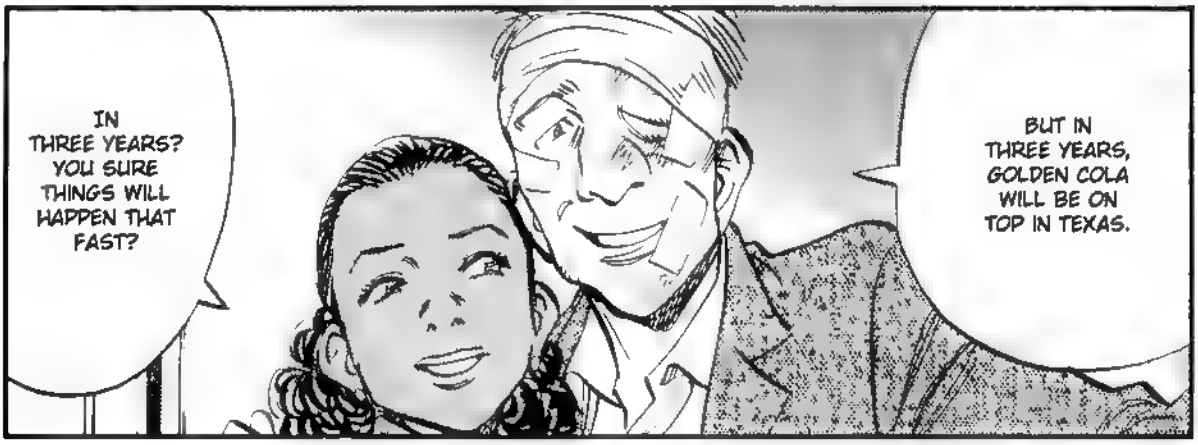
AND THIS IS GOLDEN COLA'S DALLAS BRANCH!!

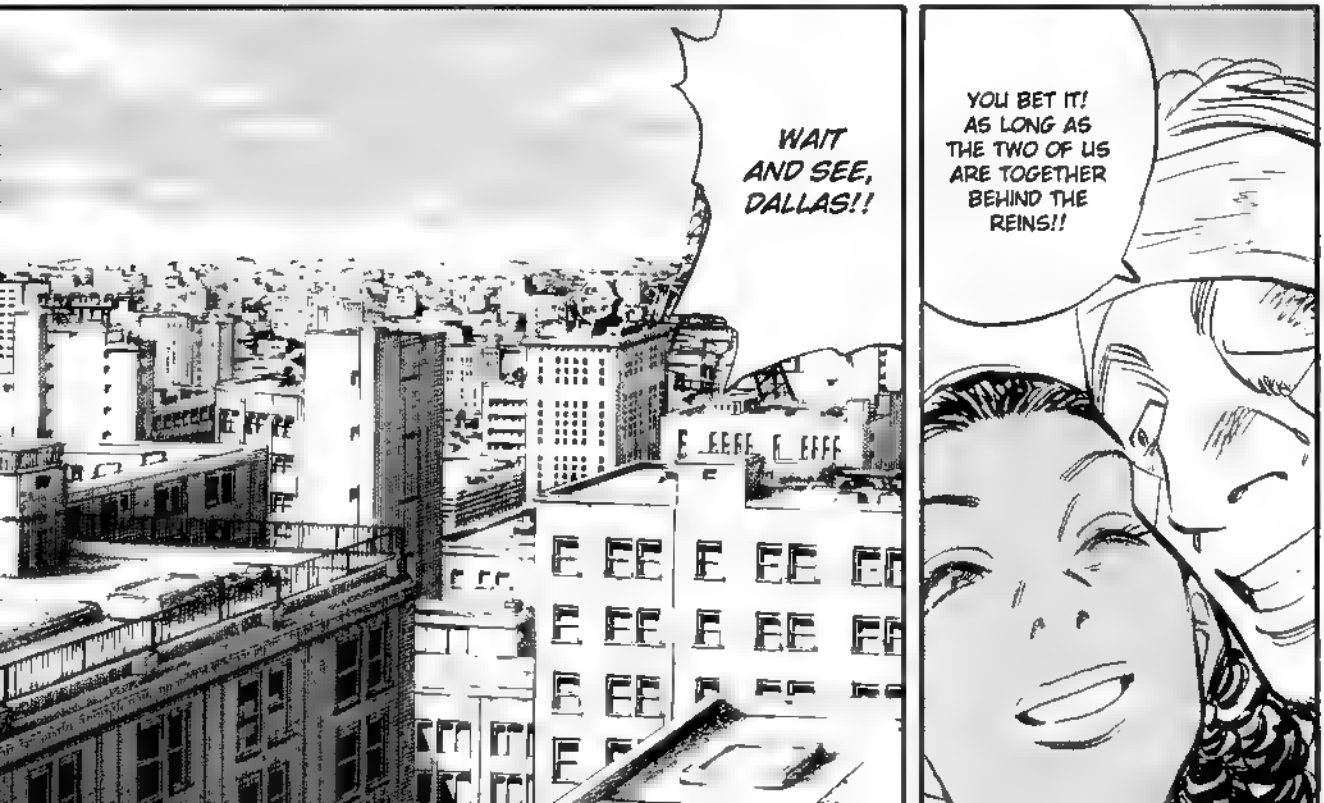

WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE..?

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE WORKING WITH YOU ALL!!

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO MY BELOVED WIFE DIANE.
AHH, WELL, YOU SEE, I HAD A TERRIBLE FALL ON THE ROAD A WAYS BACK, HAHAHA...

GOLDEN COLA STILL HAS A SMALL SHARE RATIO HERE.
MANAGER OFFICE


IN THREE YEARS? YOU SURE THINGS WILL HAPPEN THAT FAST?
BUT IN THREE YEARS, GOLDEN COLA WILL BE ON TOP IN TEXAS.

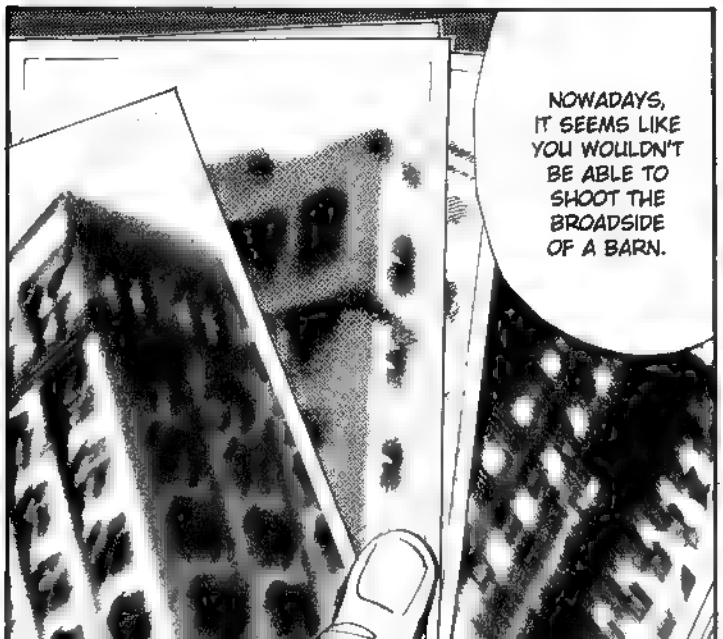

WAIT AND SEE, DALLAS!!
YOU BET IT! AS LONG AS THE TWO OF US ARE TOGETHER BEHIND THE REINS!!

CHAPTER 42 DALLAS, THREE YEARS LATER...

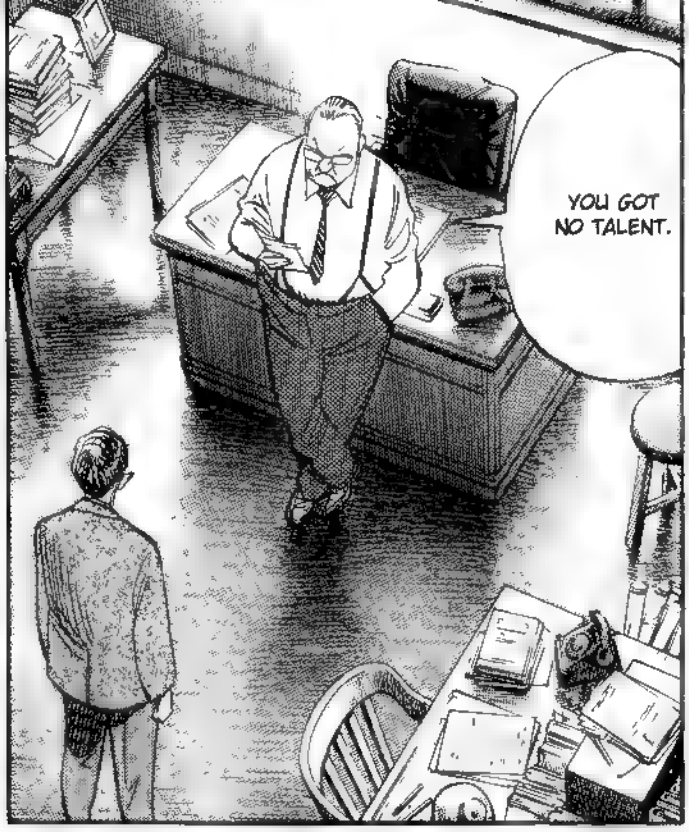
1963--
Golden Cola

MY SNIPING ARM WAS TOP CLASS WHEN I WAS IN THE MARINES...

WHAT'S THIS SO OUT OF FOCUS FOR... ARE YOU NEAR-SIGHTED?
NO...
Golden Cola

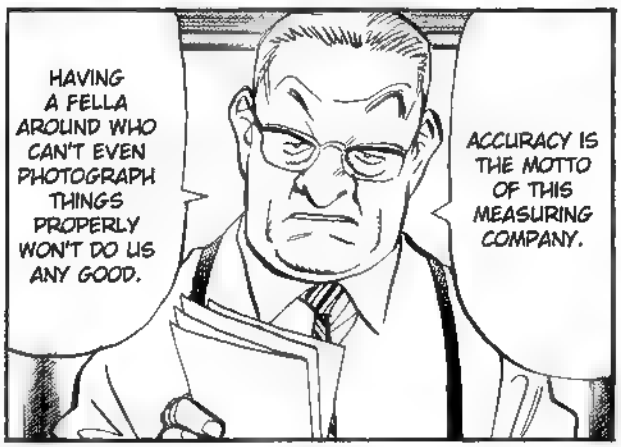

NOWADAYS, IT SEEMS LIKE YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SHOOT THE BROADSIDE OF A BARN.

HMPH, THAT'S RICH!


YOU GOT NO TALENT.

WELL, OSWALD?

YES, SIR.


HAVING A FELLA AROUND WHO CAN'T EVEN PHOTOGRAPH THINGS PROPERLY WON'T DO US ANY GOOD.
ACCURACY IS THE MOTTO OF THIS MEASURING COMPANY.

ALRIGHT, THEN I'LL QUIT.

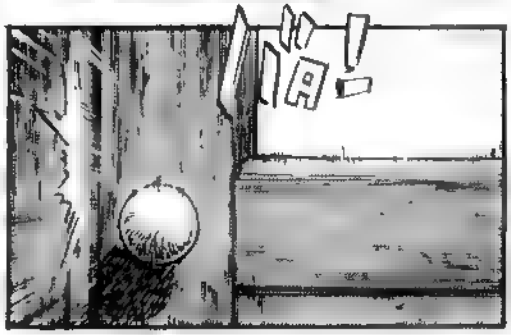
THERE'S A BASIC ATTITUDE YOU SHOULD TAKE TOWARD THESE THINGS...
THAT'S WHY YOU NEVER GET ANY BETTER.

WHAT'S THAT LOOK FOR?

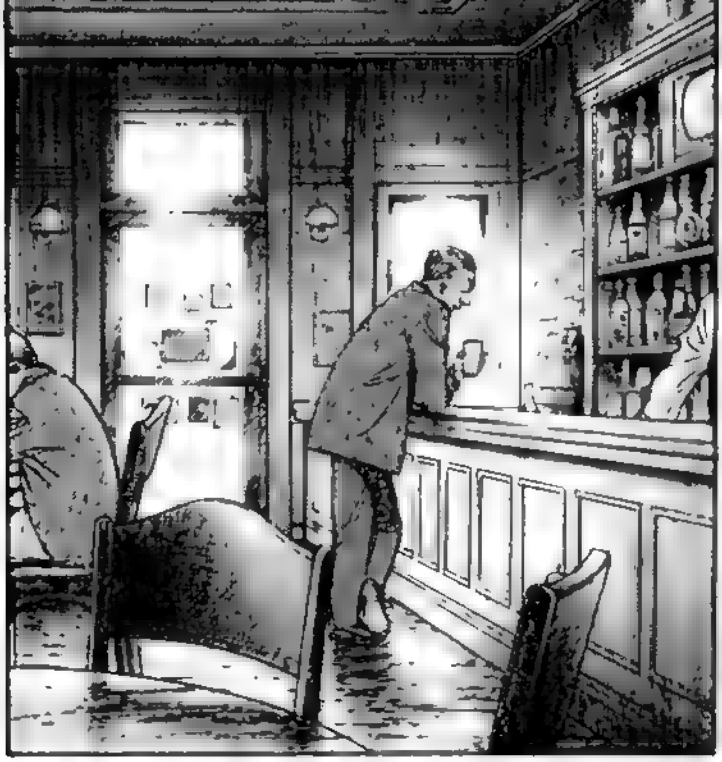
H...HEY, OSWALD..!!

HUH?

I NEVER WANTED TO COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.


PA!

KIDS THESE DAYS...
JEEZ LOUISE ...



Arnold's BAR

A FRIDGE FULL OF GOLDEN COLA..!!
...MEANS A HOME FULL OF HAPPINESS !!

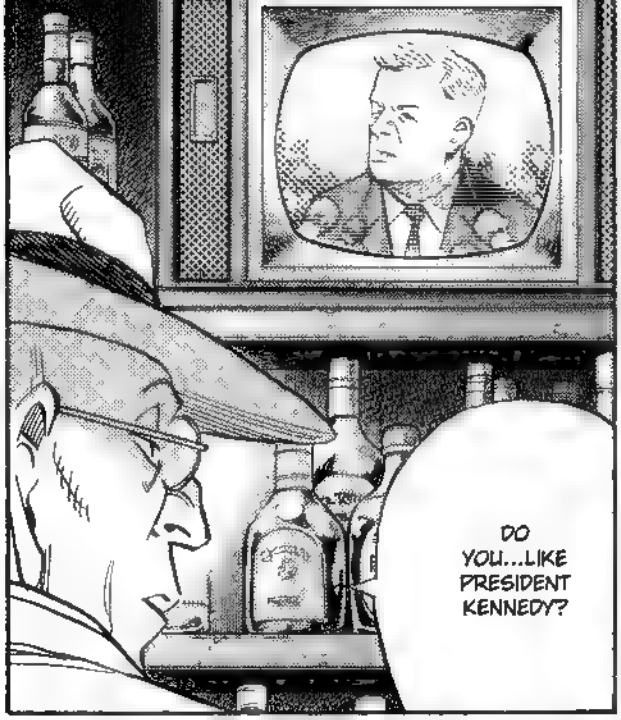
SUPER REFRESHING GOLDEN COLA!

I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE A SIP AS WELL.

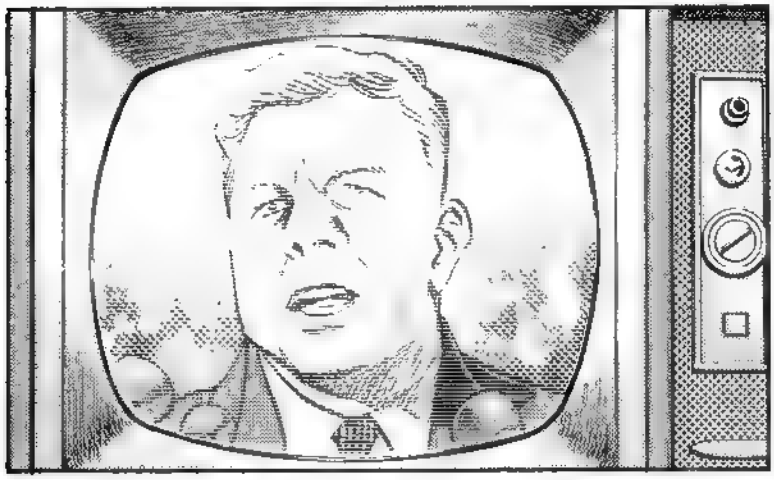
YESSIR.
YOU'RE...
TEQUILA AND GOLDEN COLA.
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING LATELY?
HI THERE.
HUH..?
THAT'S OUR OSWALD.
I...QUIT MY JOB...

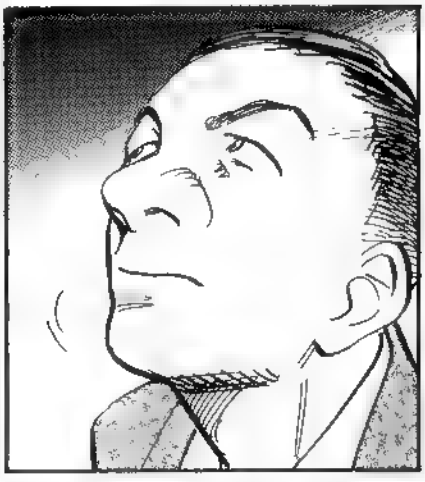
UM... THANKS.
JUST LIKE I EXPECTED.
KLAK
YOU KNOW HOW TO CLEAN UP YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES AT JUST THE RIGHT TIMING...
WELL, CHEERS THEN.
CHINK
I KNEW YOU DIDN'T BELONG THERE, ANYWAY.
YES, SIR...
Y...YES, BY MAIL DELIVERY ...
THE RIFLE...
DID YOU GET IT?

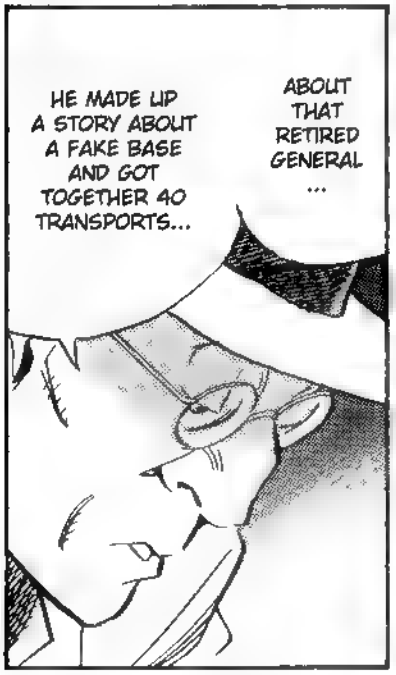
THAT'S GOOD...
WHO AM I GOING TO SHOOT?
YOUR JOB'S... BEEN DECIDED.
UNTIL RECENTLY, HE WAS AT THE TOP OF THE ARMY.
A RETIRED GENERAL.


DO YOU...LIKE PRESIDENT KENNEDY?

WHAT DID HE DO..?





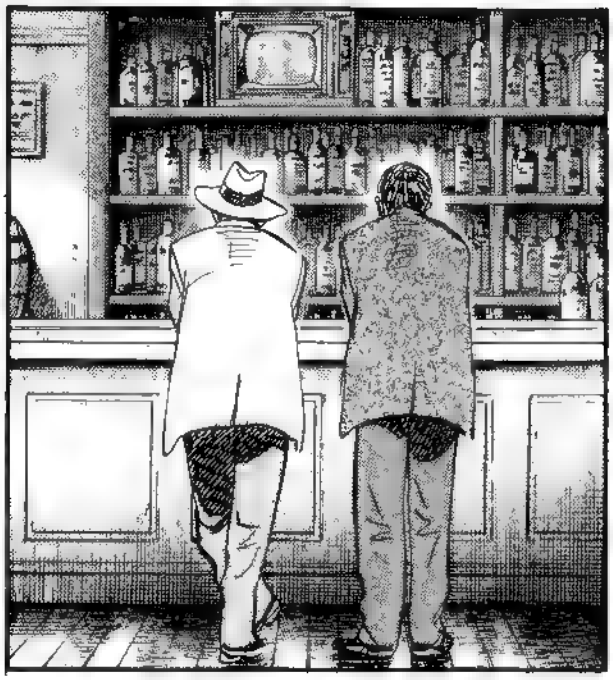

HE MADE UP A STORY ABOUT A FAKE BASE AND GOT TOGETHER 40 TRANSPORTS...
ABOUT THAT RETIRED GENERAL ...

HE'S LOOKING FOR A WAY FOR US TO RESTORE FRIENDSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION...

I LOVE HIM.

...ALL FOR THE SAKE OF PLANNING A COUP D'ETAT ON WASHINGTON.

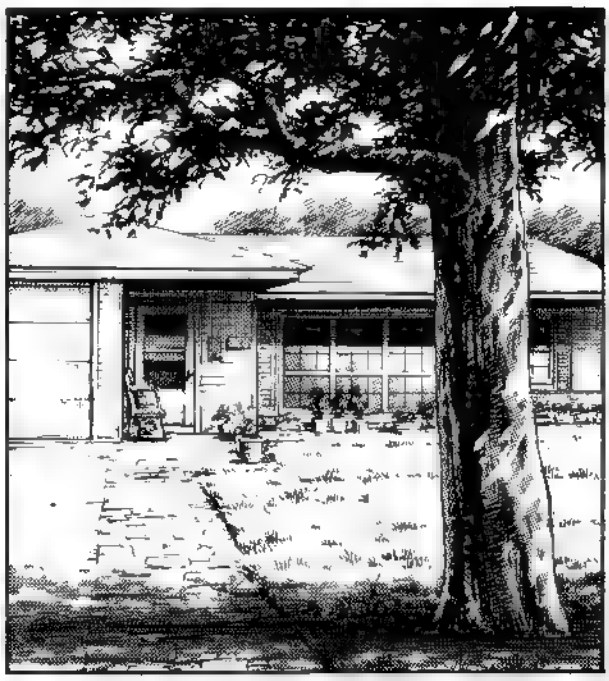
...TO MOVE AN ENTIRE SPECIAL SQUAD DISGUISED AS SERVICEMEN OFF TO EMERGENCY MOCK MANEUVERS ...

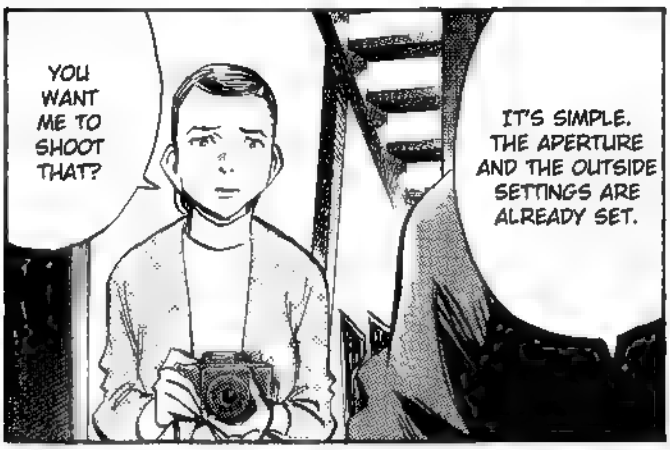


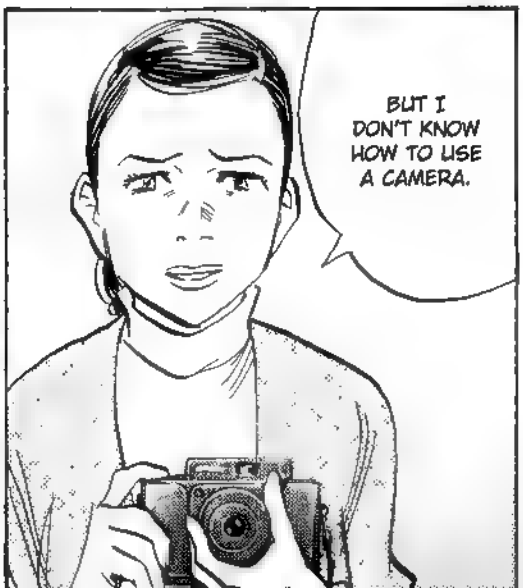
H...HE'S THAT BAD A MAN..?

THE FATE OF OUR COUNTRY IS RESTING ON YOUR SHOULDERS.

RATTLE RATTLE
LEE? WHAT'S GOING ON, LEE...
JUST WAIT THERE.



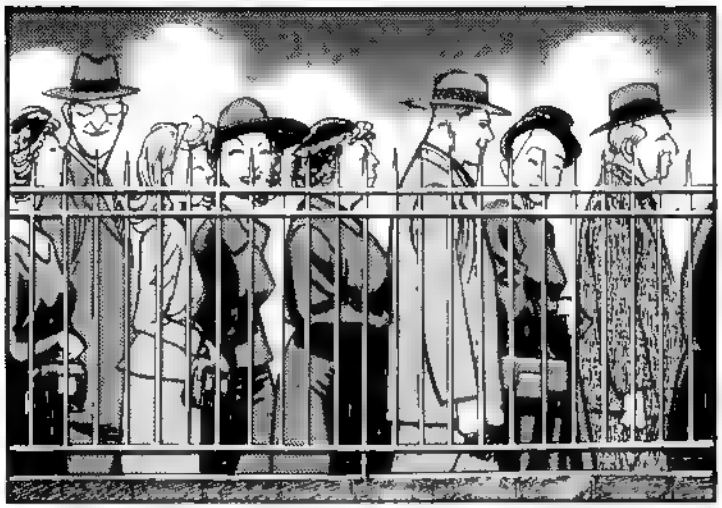

YOU WANT ME TO SHOOT THAT?
IT'S SIMPLE. THE APERTURE AND THE OUTSIDE SETTINGS ARE ALREADY SET.

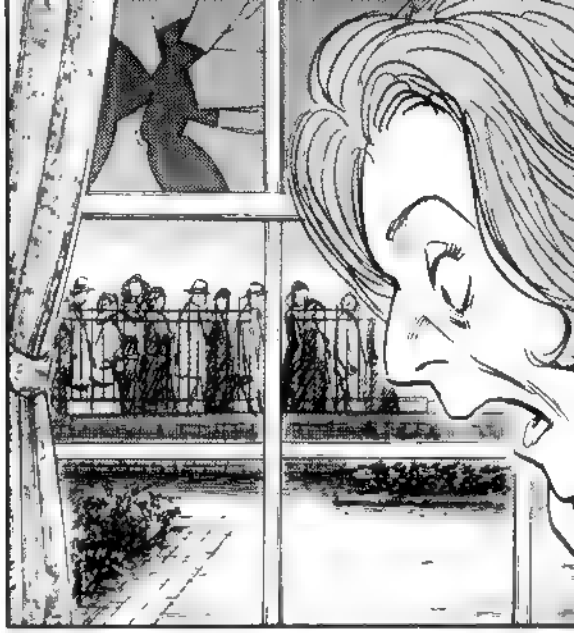

BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE A CAMERA.

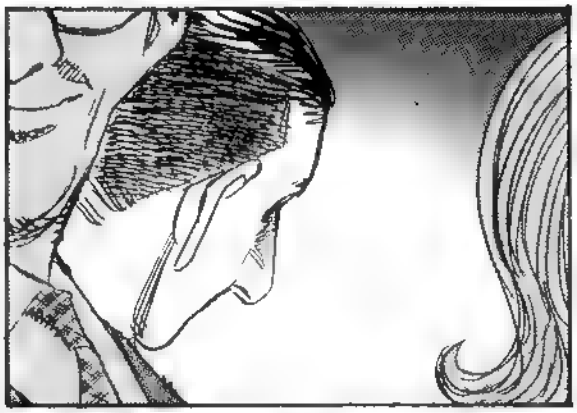
UMMM...
CHA
YEAH.
DON'T SHOOT IT OUT OF FOCUS.
MAKE SURE YOU GET IT RIGHT.
THE MILITANT

DONG
DONG
DONG

ARRRR-
GGGHH!!
DEAR!!





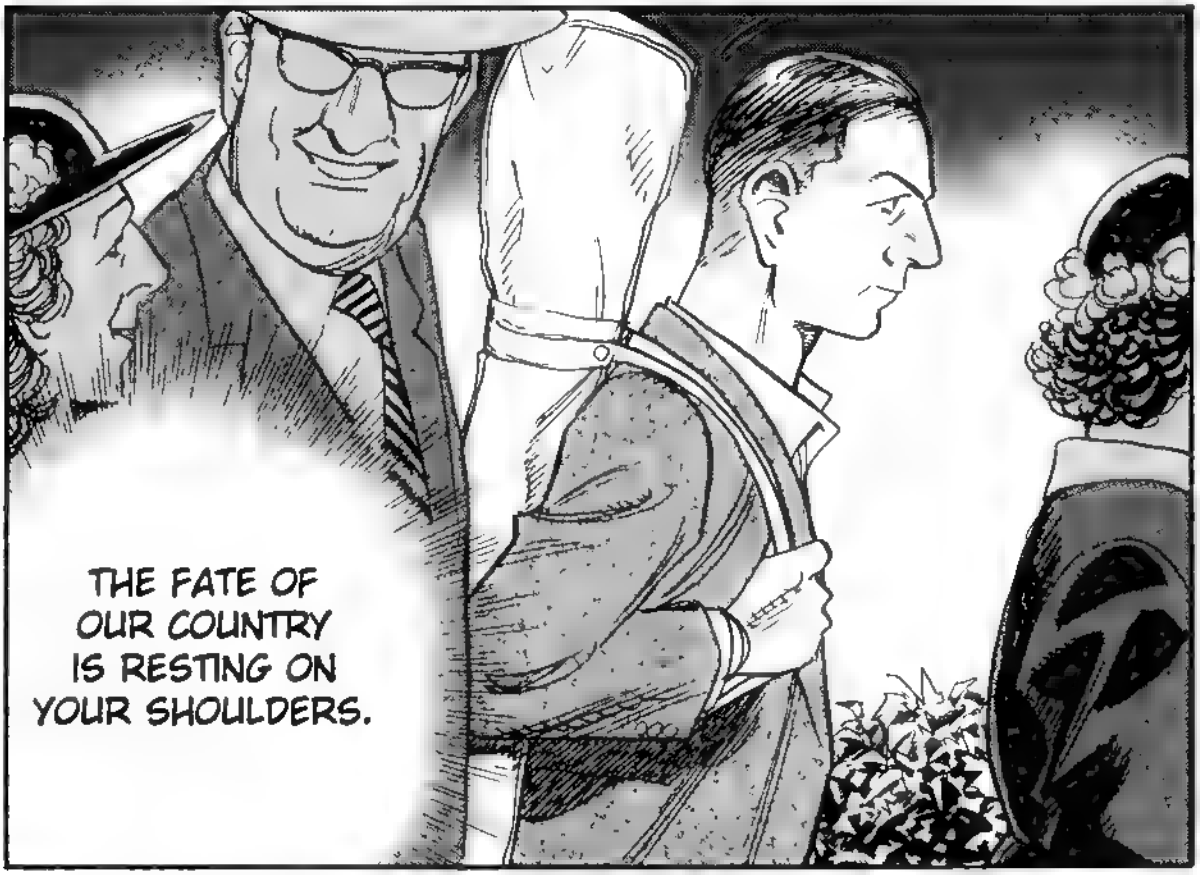


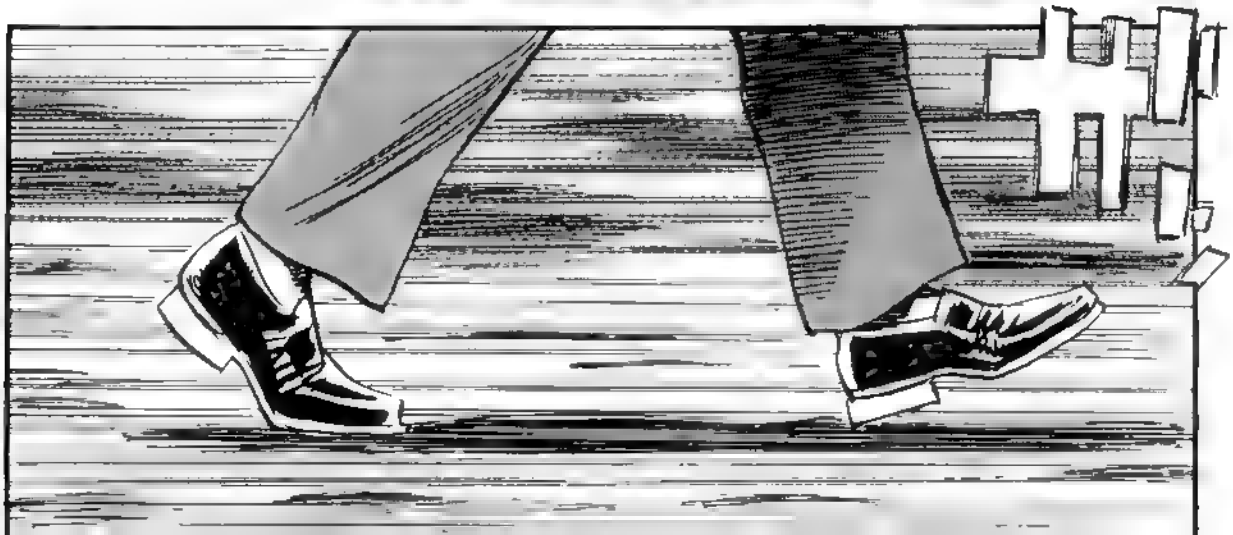
...DO THE RIGHT THING..?
DID I...
WHAT I... ...DID JUST NOW ...
...WAS IT A GOOD THING..?
OEHH...

THAT'S OUR OSWALD.

THE FATE OF OUR COUNTRY IS RESTING ON YOUR SHOULDERS.

THAT'S
OUR
OSWALD.


THE FATE OF
OUR COUNTRY
IS RESTING ON
YOUR SHOULDERS.



HOW ABOUT BECOMING A HERO FOR OUR COUNTRY?

Former Major General shot!!
THE DALLAS PRESS
Fired on while eating in his own home!!
Perpetrator still at large!!

THE DALLAS PRESS

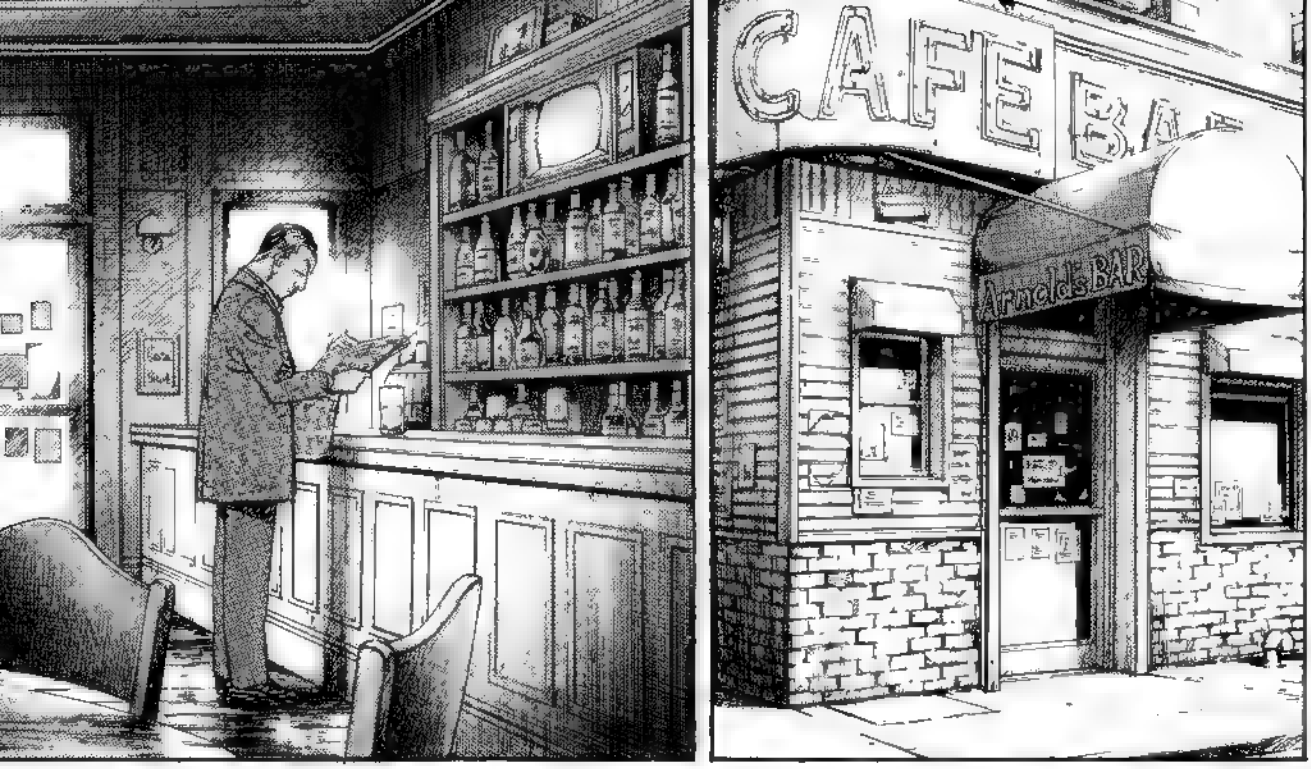
Former Major General of the United States Army, Mr. Edwin Walker, shot and injured!!

ED … Y MAJOR GENERAL … ALKER SHOT INJURED!!

Snip…

Sniper In Dining

CHAPTER 43 - A HERO'S DECISION


CAFE BAR
Arnold's BAR

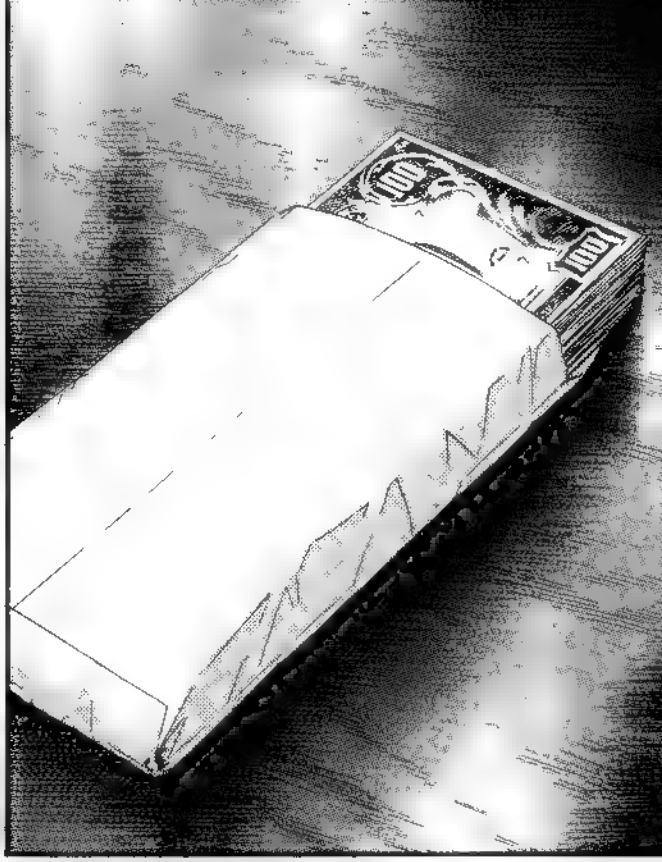
SHOT...

JUST AS I EXPECTED.

...AND INJURED..?

JUST AS YOU EXPECTED ..?
YOU MADE SURE TO MISS.
YESSIR.
TEQUILA AND GOLDEN COLA.
I NEVER ONCE TOLD YOU TO KILL HIM.
WHAT?
KLAK
EXCELLENT JOB...

IT'S LIKE YOU'RE TELEPATHIC.
TO GIVE HIM A WOUND LIKE THAT...
...AND NOT KILL HIM...
THAT WAS NO COMMON FEAT.
CH... CHEERS.
WELL, CHEERS THEN.
CHINK



USE THIS MONEY TO SHAKE OFF THE REMAINING HEAT.

GO STAY WITH HIM FOR A WHILE.

Y...YEAH.
OSWALD, MY BOY... I HEARD YOU HAVE AN UNCLE IN NEW ORLEANS.

REALLY NOW...

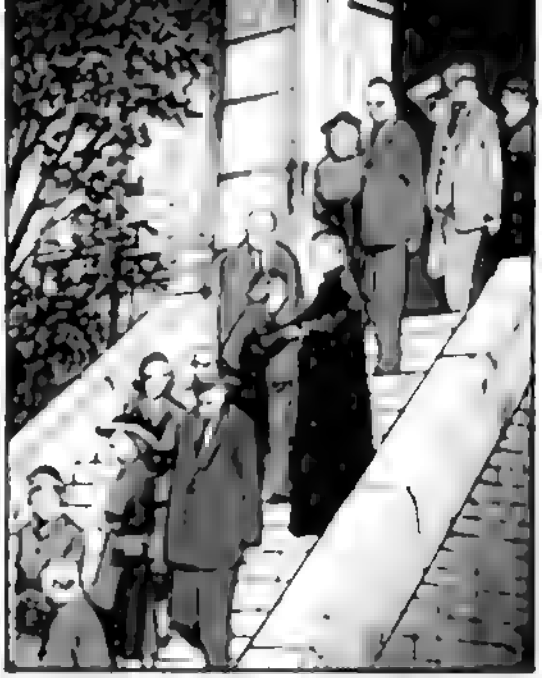
ER...UMM... HE WORKS AT A CANNED COFFEE FACTORY... THEY DEAL WITH CUBA.
...WHAT DOES HE DO AGAIN?

CLINK
THAT'S GOOD...
UMM...
SO LONG.
HM?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT..?
UMM... YOU...
...KNEW I WOULD MISS, DIDN'T YOU?
UMM... ER...
YOU KNEW FROM THE START THAT I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SHOOT STRAIGHT, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU'RE A FIRST-CLASS SNIPER, AREN'T YOU?

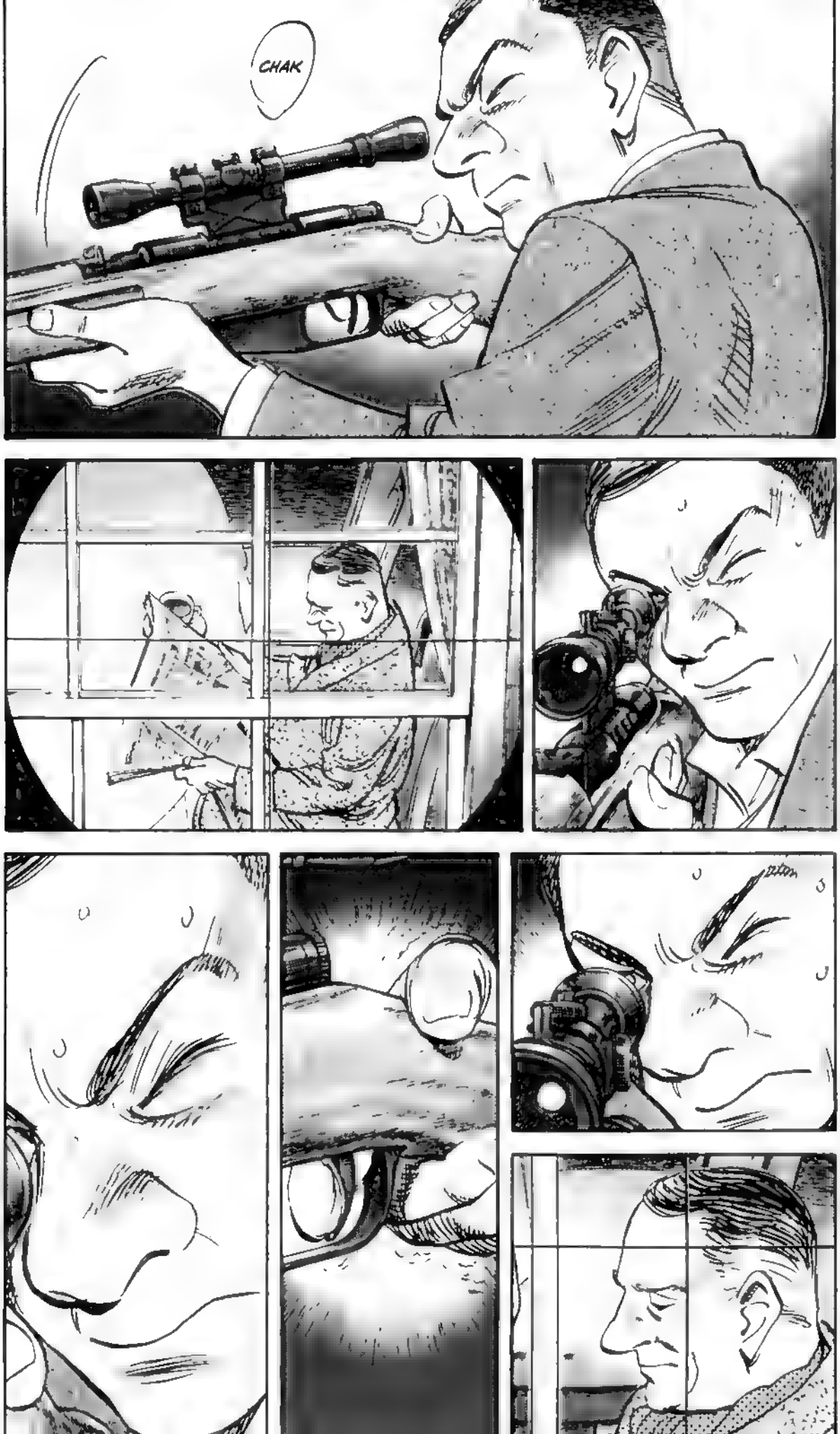
CLEAR

DONG
DONG



HAAAAA
...

HOOOOO HAAAAA ...
HOOOOO HAAAAA ...
CALM DOWN...
CALM DOWN...
CALM DOWN.
CALM DOWN...
HOOO-OO...
YOU'RE GOING TO PROTECT PRESIDENT KENNEDY.
YOU'RE GOING TO PROTECT AMERICA...


CHAK

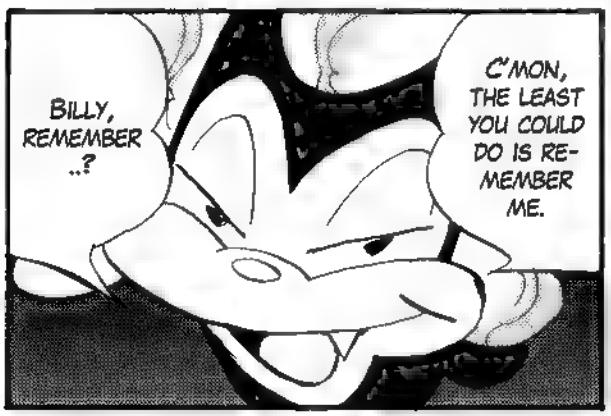
COOL IT, PAL.

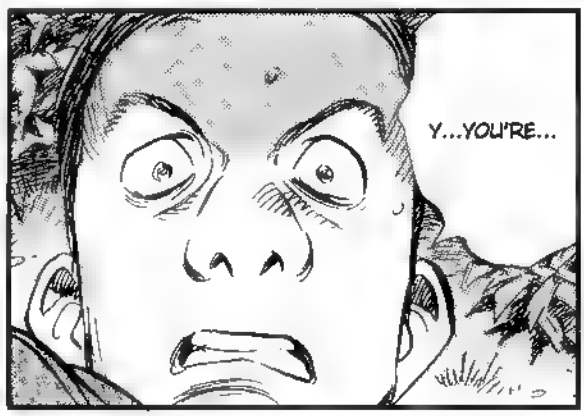
HIIIEE-AAAAA-AHHHH!!
HIE... HIEEEE...

UWAAAAHHH!!

WHAT ARE YOU SCREAMING FOR?

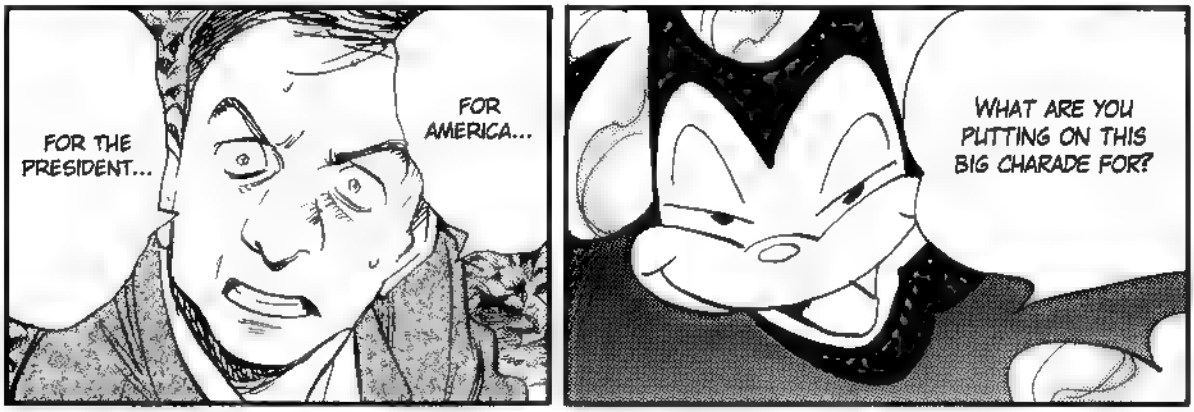
THIS AIN'T THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET, IS IT?


BILLY, REMEMBER ..?
C'MON, THE LEAST YOU COULD DO IS RE-MEMBER ME.


Y...YOU'RE...

BILLY BAT!!

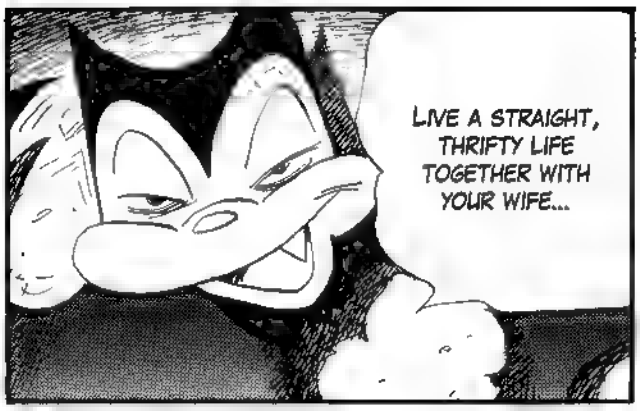
COOL DOWN YOUR HEAD, OSWALD.
STEADY THERE!
UWAAAAAAHH!!


FOR THE PRESIDENT...
FOR AMERICA...
WHAT ARE YOU PUTTING ON THIS BIG CHARADE FOR?

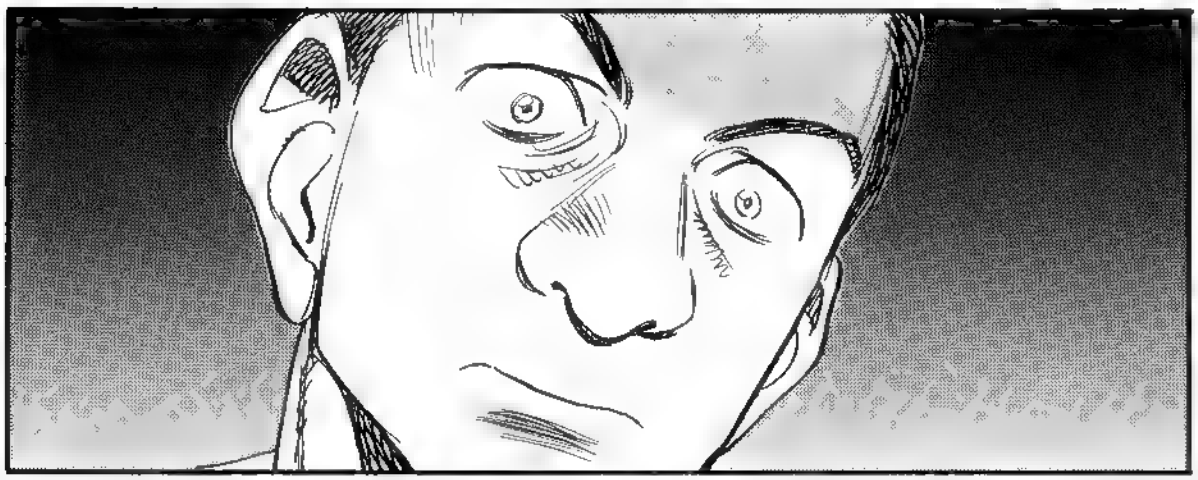
KHAHAHAHA!!
DON'T LAUGH!!
KH...

MOVE IT!
DON'T DO IT.
DON'T DO IT.
DON'T...
MOVE!!

YOU MISSED.
WHAT..?
D...DID I HIT?!
WHAT..?
IT'S A GOOD THING...
FLAP FLAP
AND THAT'S... GOOD.
...A DECISION LEFT TO MAKE.
YOU STILL HAVE...
A DECISION ..?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN GOOD?! BECAUSE OF YOU, I MISSED MY ONLY CHANCE..!!

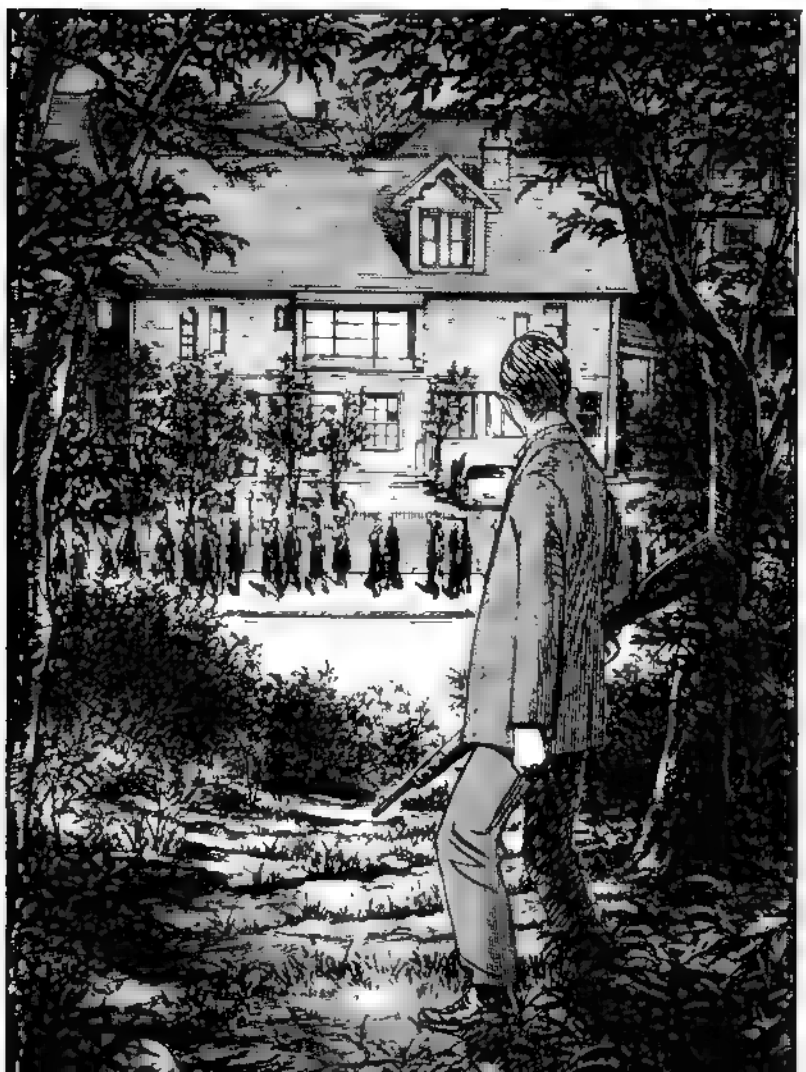

LIVE A STRAIGHT, THRIFTY LIFE TOGETHER WITH YOUR WIFE...

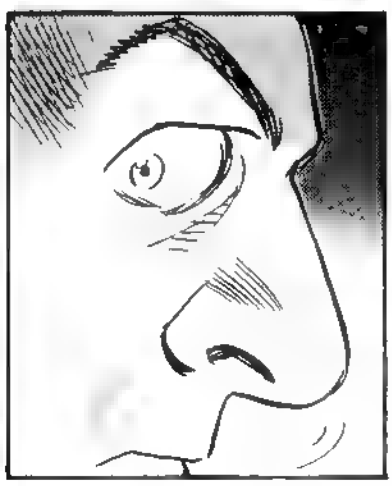
...OR ETCH YOUR NAME INTO THE PAGES OF HISTORY..?

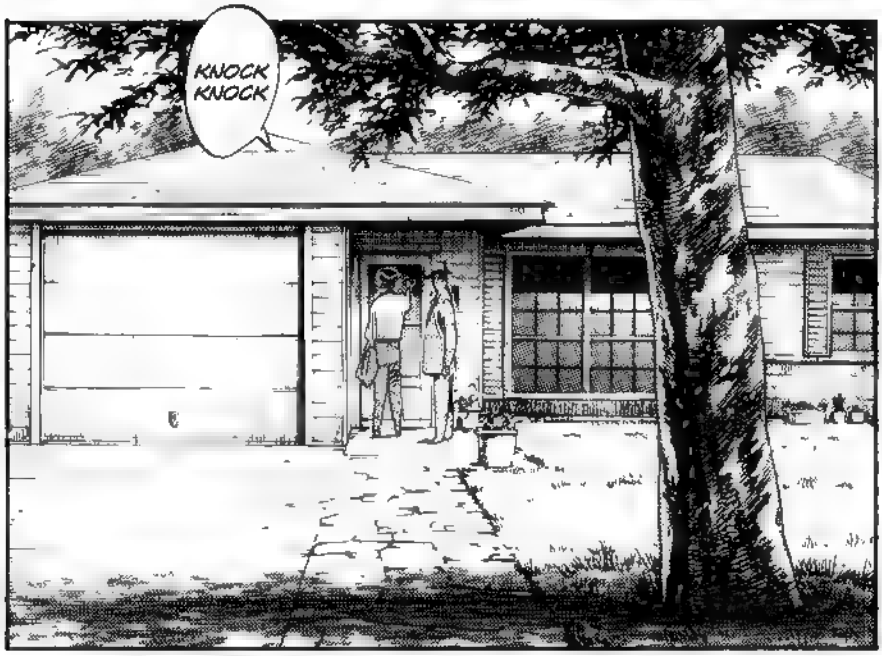


WHICH WOULD A HERO CHOOSE?

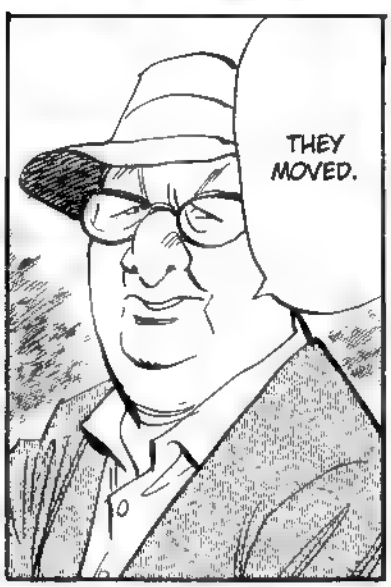
AHH...

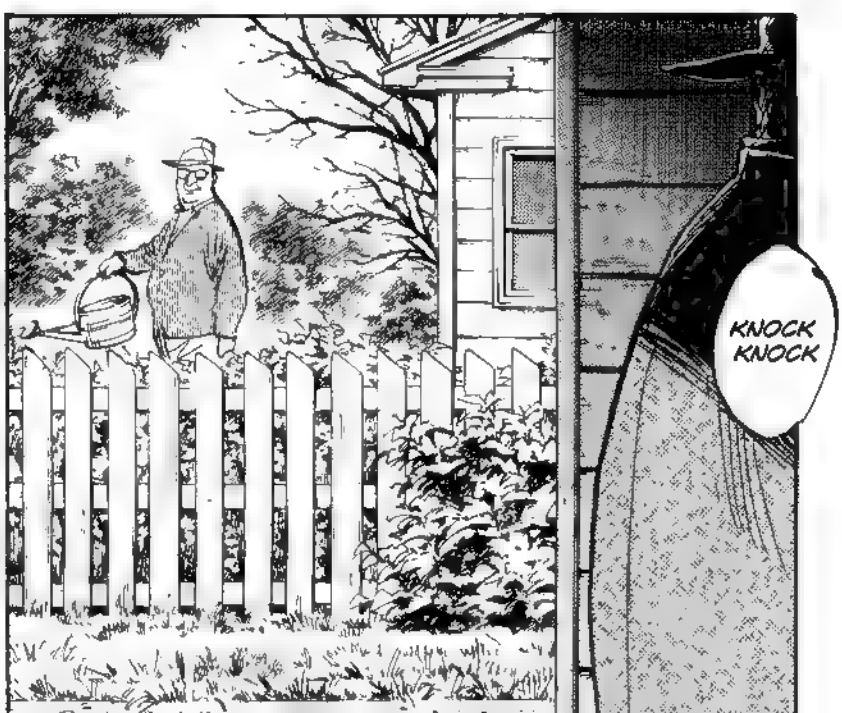




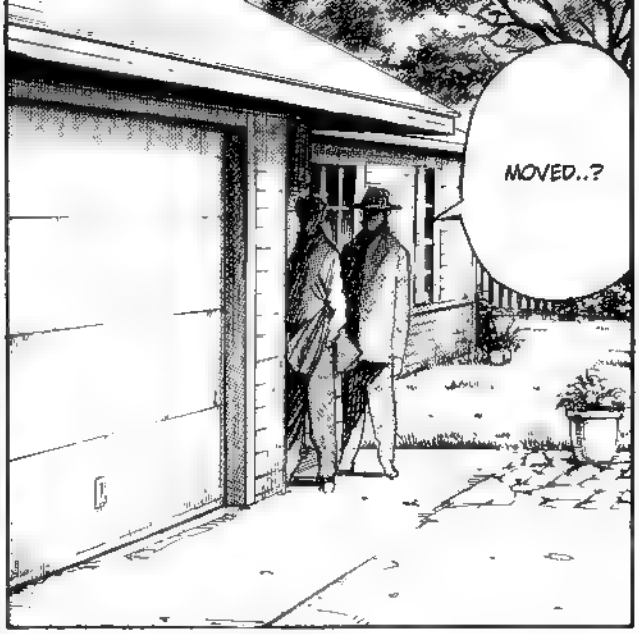

KNOCK KNOCK

KNOCK KNOCK

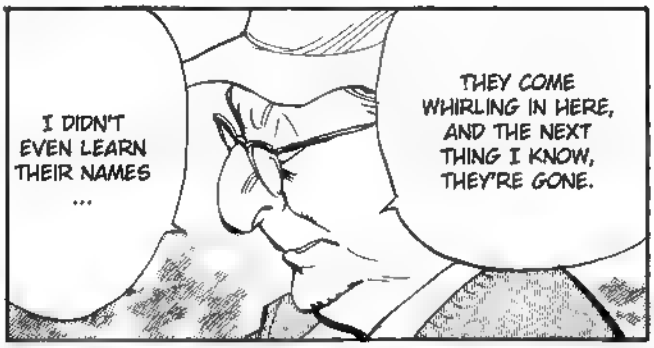

THEY MOVED.

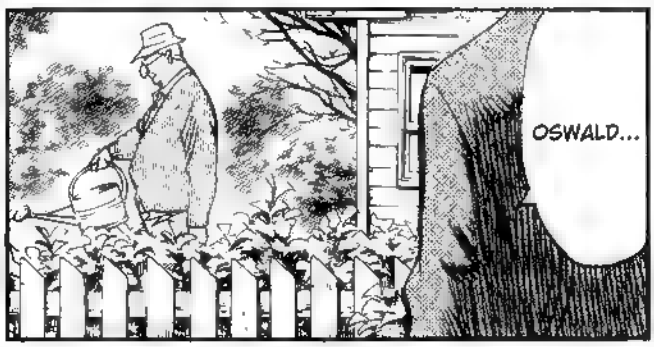

KNOCK KNOCK

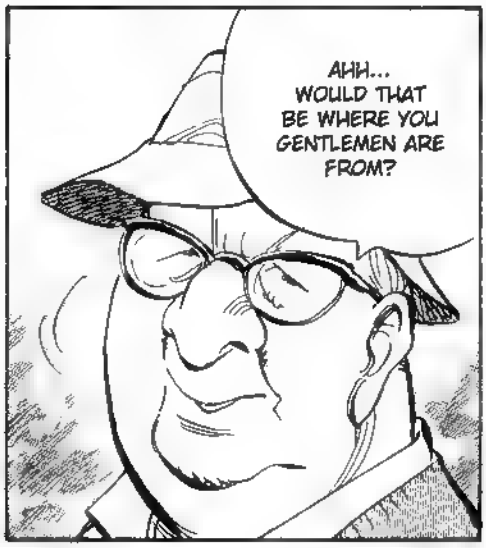
YEAH, ALL OF A SUDDEN.


MOVED..?

AHH, OSWALD... YEAH, THAT'S IT...
HE AND HIS WIFE SPOKE RUSSIAN. THEY WERE A WEIRD COUPLE.


I DIDN'T EVEN LEARN THEIR NAMES ...
THEY COME WHIRLING IN HERE, AND THE NEXT THING I KNOW, THEY'RE GONE.


OSWALD...


AHH... WOULD THAT BE WHERE YOU GENTLEMEN ARE FROM?

HARD TO BELIEVE THE AUTHORITIES LET SUCH A WEIRD COUPLE LIKE THAT WALK AROUND IN THIS DAY AND AGE.

NO...
WE'RE SIMPLY ACQUAINTANCES.

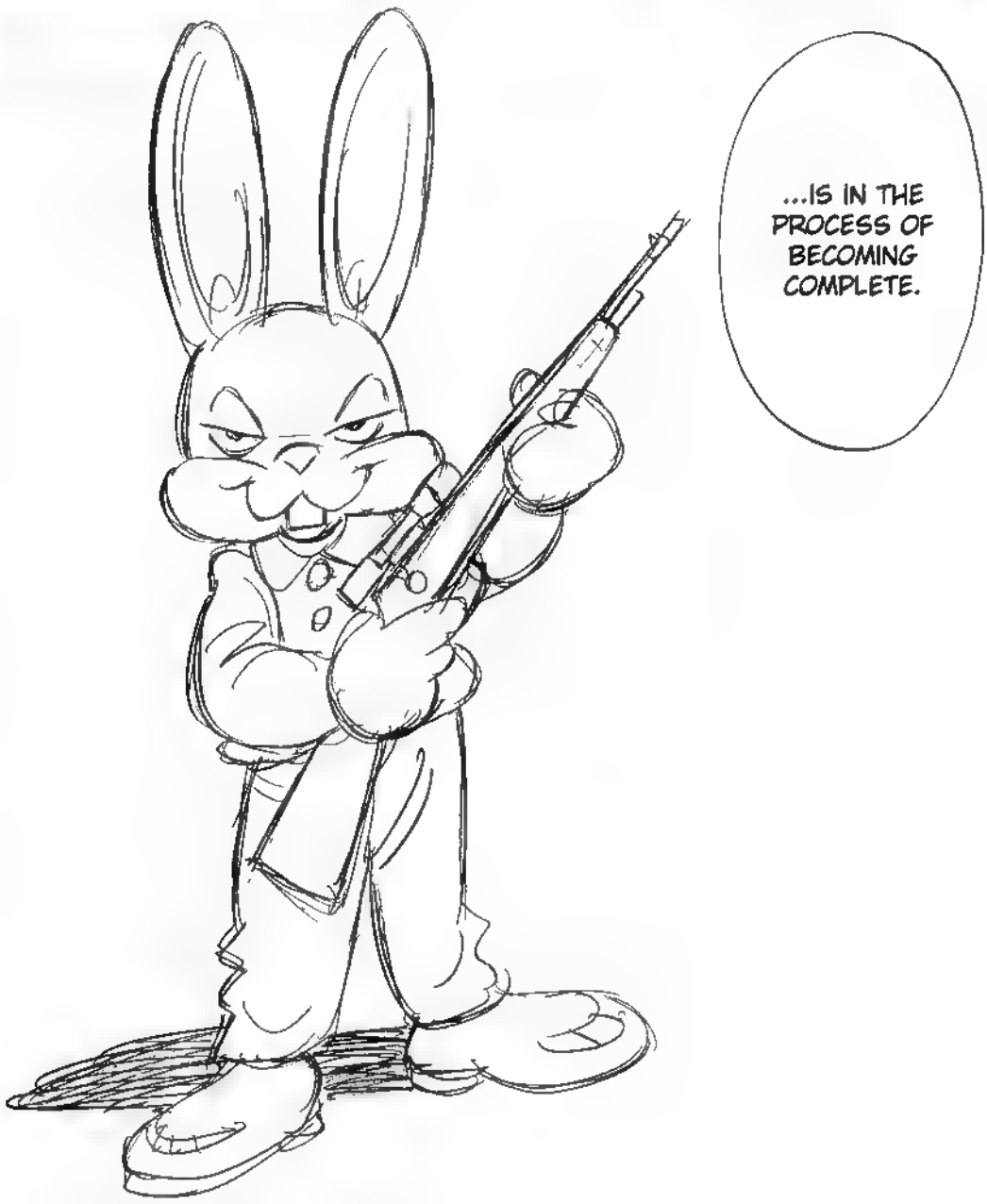
EXCUSE US.

ISN'T IT?
I THOUGHT WE'D BE ABLE TO SEE HIM FOR ONCE IN A WHILE... HOW UNFORTUNATE.

WE USED UP ALL OUR RESOURCES TO PINPOINT THIS PLACE, ONLY FOR JACK SQUAT...

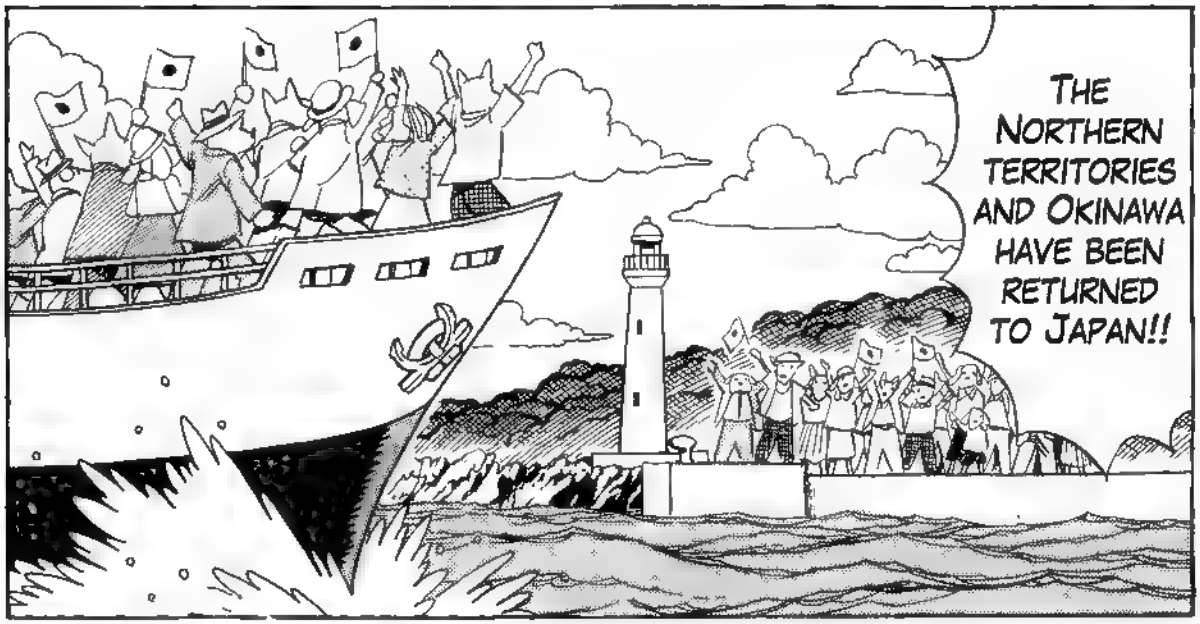
NOW WHAT..?

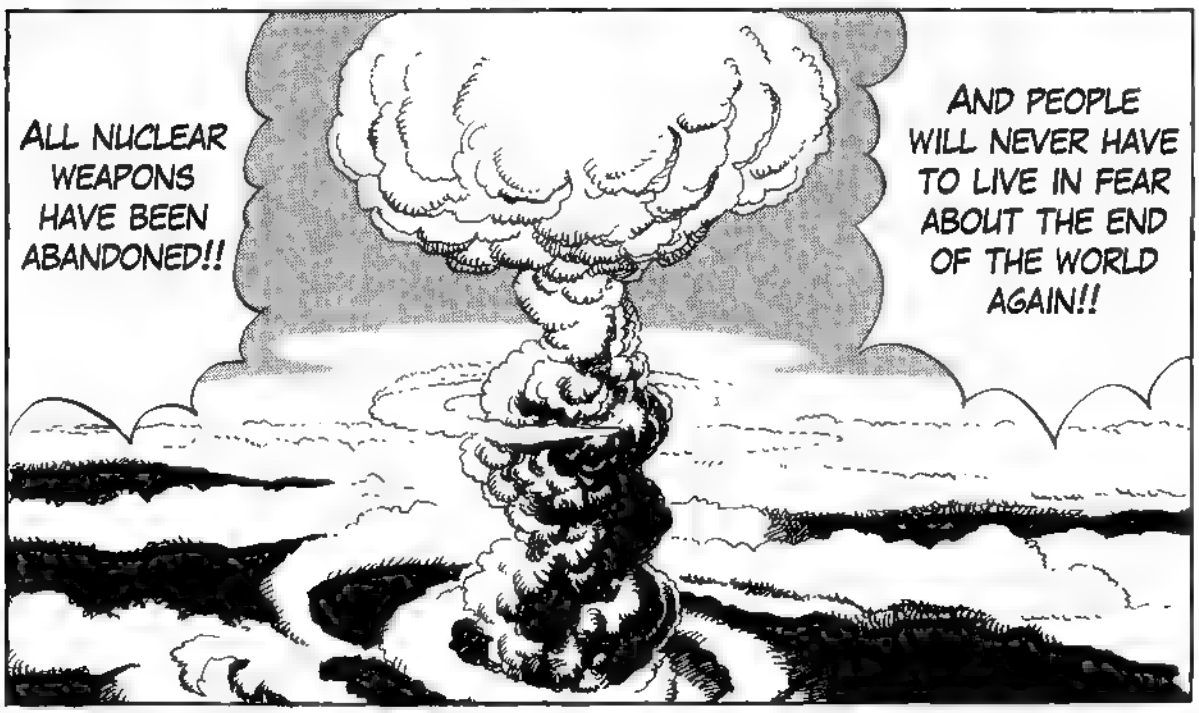
BECAUSE THE OSWALD CHARACTER INSIDE MY HEAD...
THAT JUST MEANS WE NEED TO USE EVEN MORE RESOURCES AND FIND HIM AS FAST AS POSSIBLE ...


...IS IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING COMPLETE.

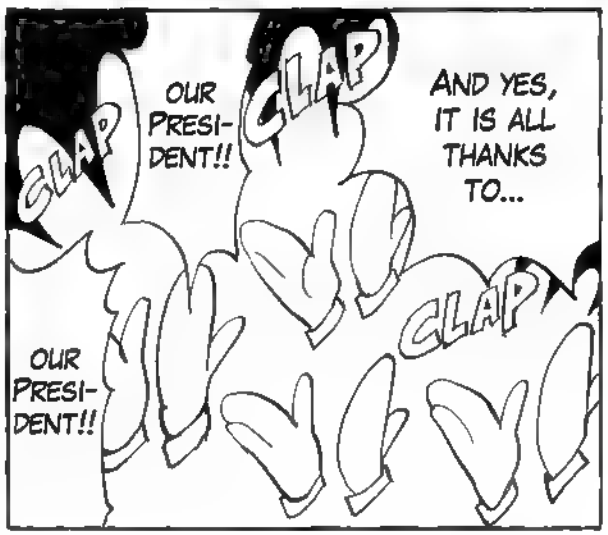
CLAP
THE TWO GREAT HEADS !!
CLAP
AND FIRST SECRET-ARY!!
CLAP
CLAP
THE PRESI-DENT!!
CLAP
CLAP
THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY ARE NOW IMPRINTING A HISTORICAL MOMENT INTO THEIR MINDS!!
THE RUSSIAN-AMERICAN PEACE TREATY HAS FINALLY BEEN SEALED !!

THE CURTAIN TO THE VIETNAM WAR HAS BEEN DROPPED !!
THE COLD WAR HAS ENDED!!
NO MORE BLOOD WILL FLOW!!
EAST AND WEST GERMANY HAS BEEN UNIFIED...


THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES AND OKINAWA HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO JAPAN!!

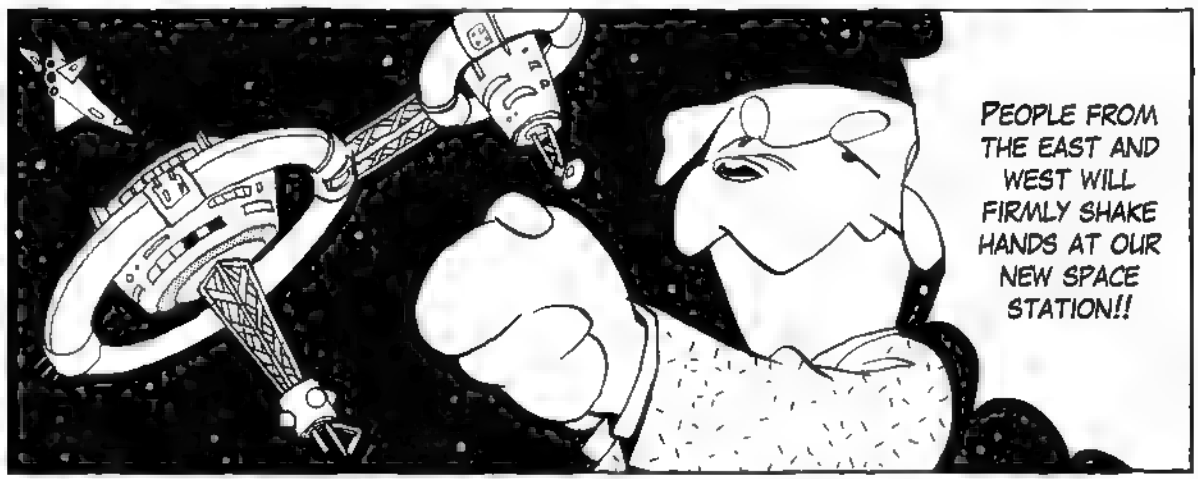

ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS HAVE BEEN ABANDONED!!
AND PEOPLE WILL NEVER HAVE TO LIVE IN FEAR ABOUT THE END OF THE WORLD AGAIN!!

THAT'S RIGHT!!
OUR PRESI-DENT!!
OUR PRESI-DENT!!


CLAP
OUR PRESI-DENT!!
CLAP
AND YES, IT IS ALL THANKS TO...
OUR PRESI-DENT!!
CLAP

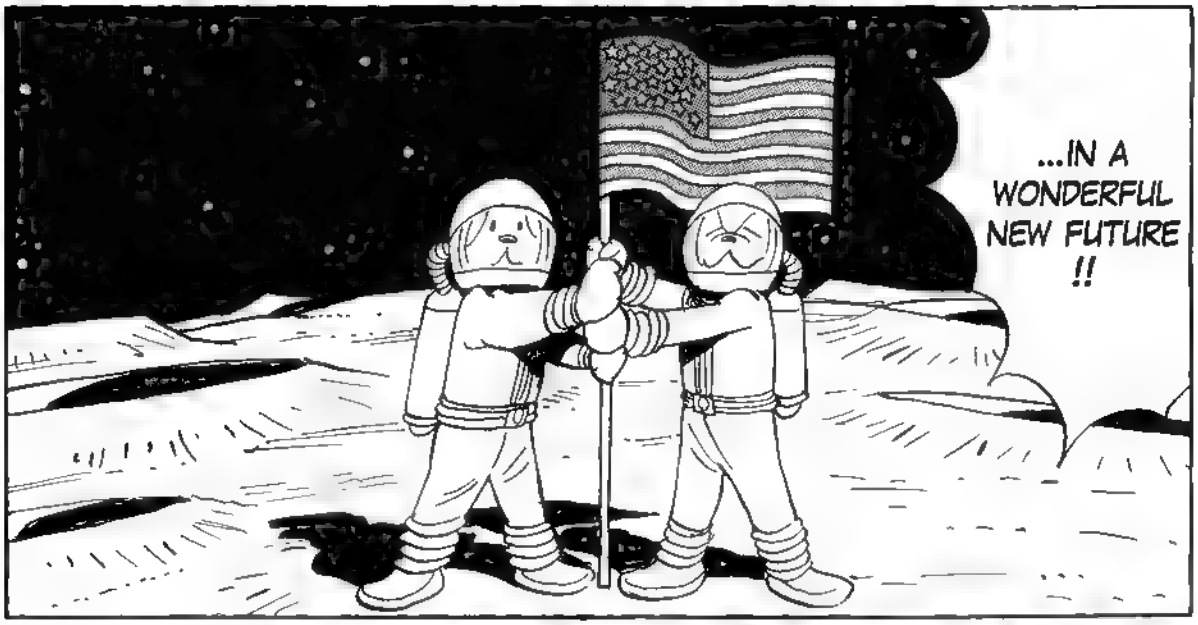
AFTER OVERCOMING THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTED ON HIM...
...OUR PRESIDENT RETURNED FROM THE OCTOBER INCIDENT IN DALLAS WITH AN IMPECCABLE SPIRIT, AND STOOD ONCE MORE BEFORE US!!

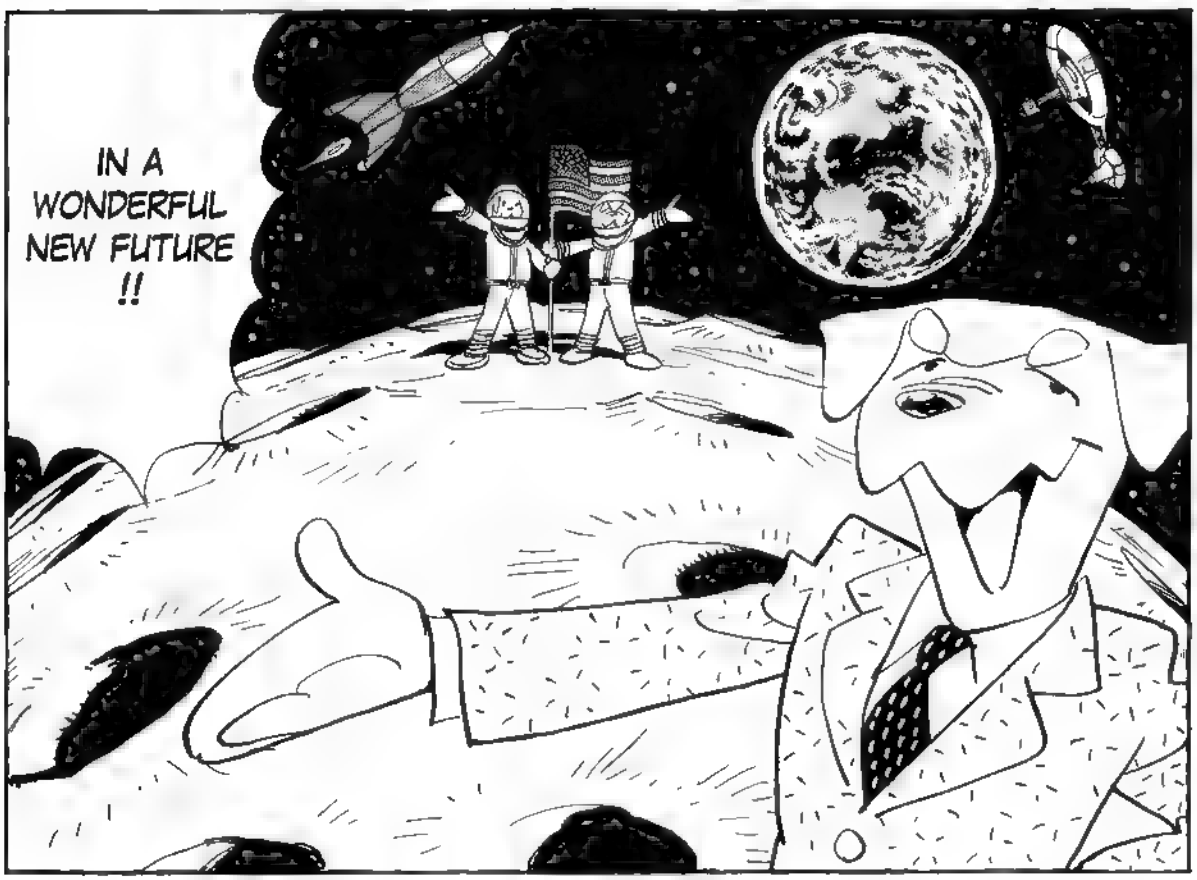
THE WORLD WILL SOON BE CONNECTED BY A HIGH-SPEED UNDERWATER RAILROAD!!
WE ARE ALL ONE NOW!!


PEOPLE FROM THE EAST AND WEST WILL FIRMLY SHAKE HANDS AT OUR NEW SPACE STATION!!

...LAND SAFELY!!

WE WILL JOIN FORCES, AND FINALLY...



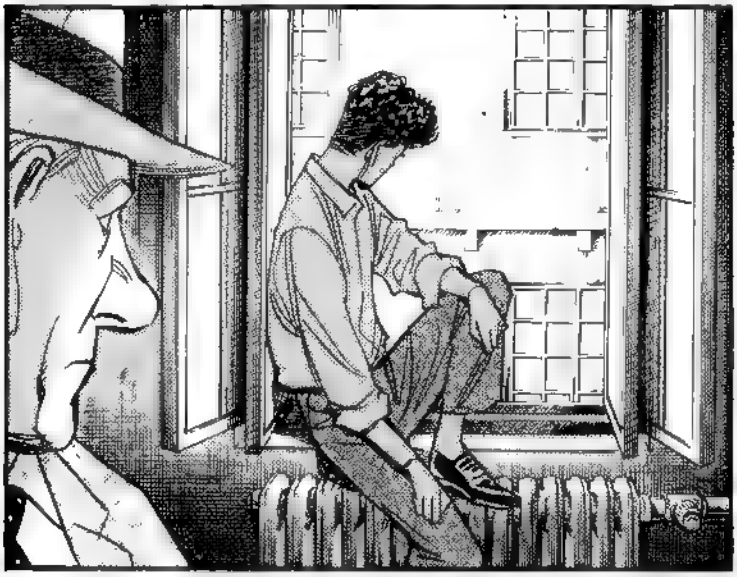


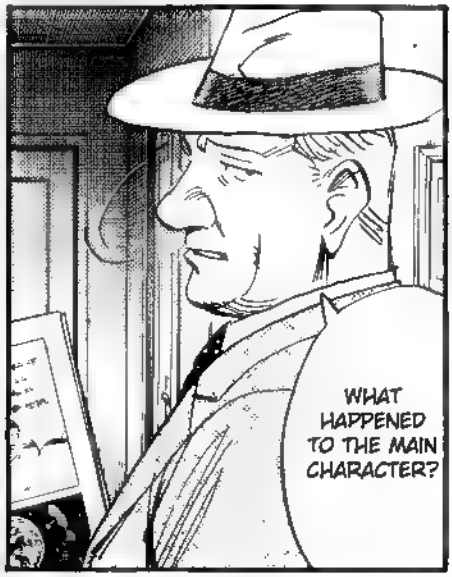
BILLY BAT

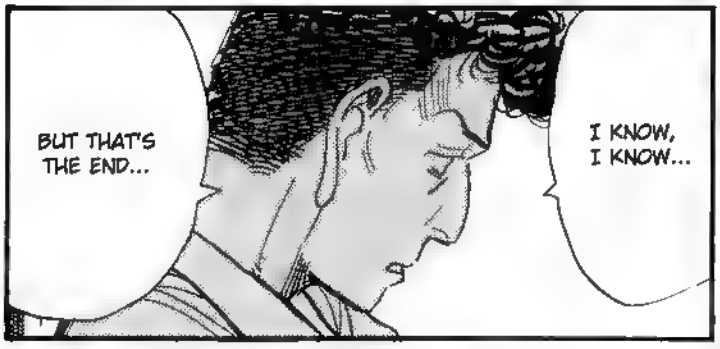
THE END

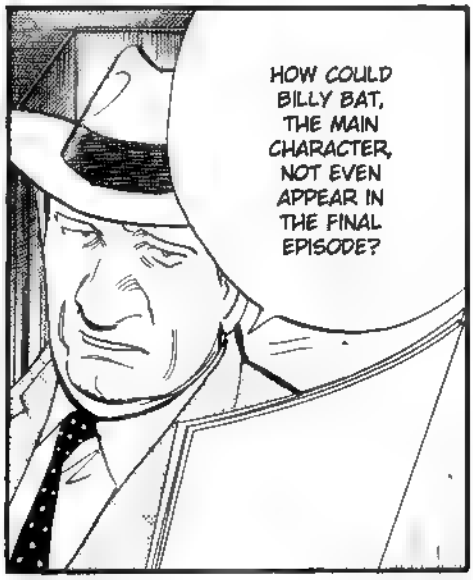
THE END...

BILLY BAT
THE END




WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MAIN CHARACTER?

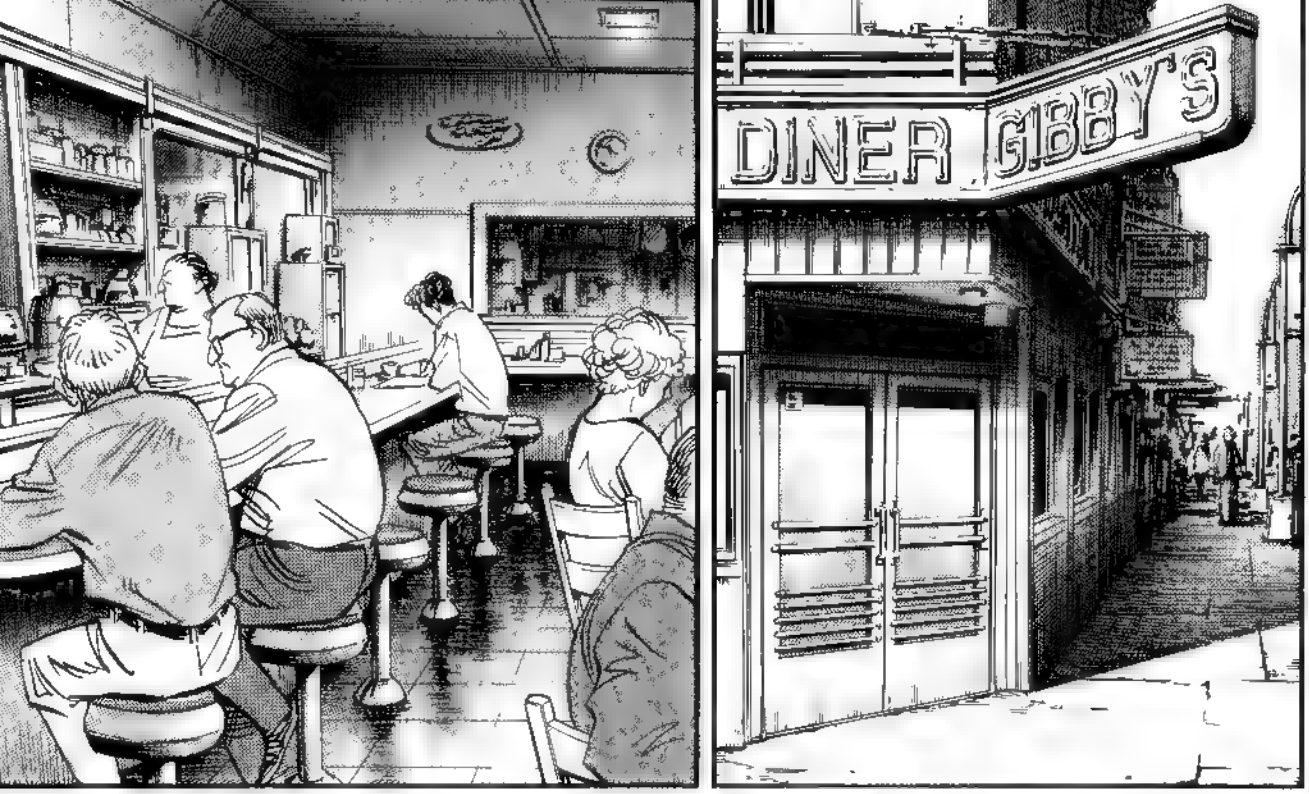

BUT THAT'S THE END...
I KNOW, I KNOW...

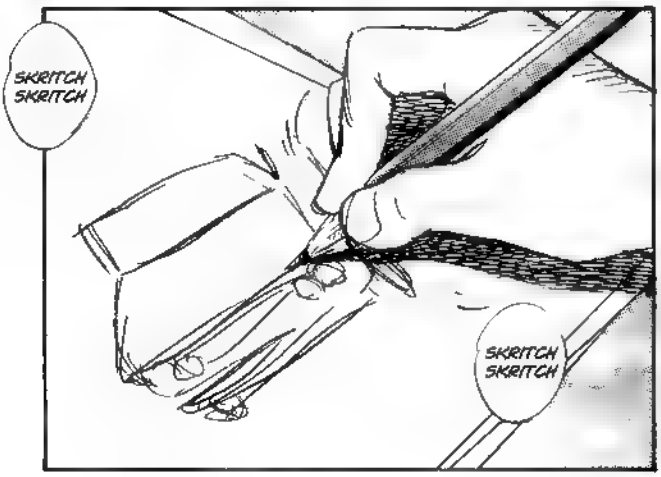

HOW COULD BILLY BAT, THE MAIN CHARACTER, NOT EVEN APPEAR IN THE FINAL EPISODE?

WHAT HAPPENED IN THE ONE BEFORE THIS?

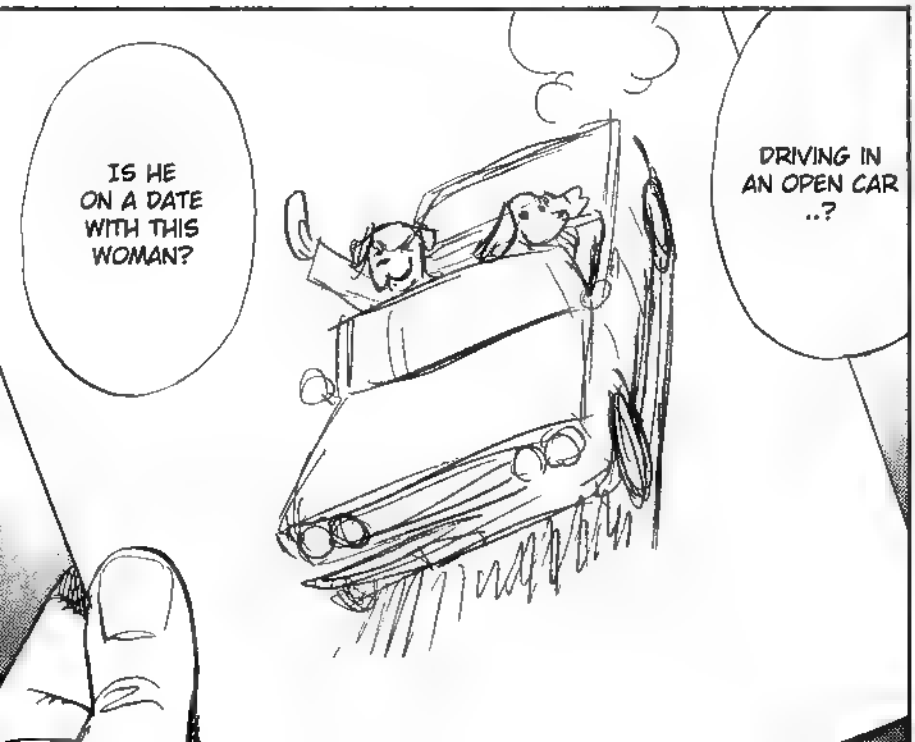
I STILL HAVE YET TO DRAW IT...
HUH?
I STILL ...

CHAPTER 44 SACRIFICE


DINER GIBBY'S


SKRITCH SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH

SKRITCH
SKRITCH


IS HE ON A DATE WITH THIS WOMAN?
DRIVING IN AN OPEN CAR ..?

SKRITCH
SKRITCH SKRITCH
THEY'RE IN TOWN...

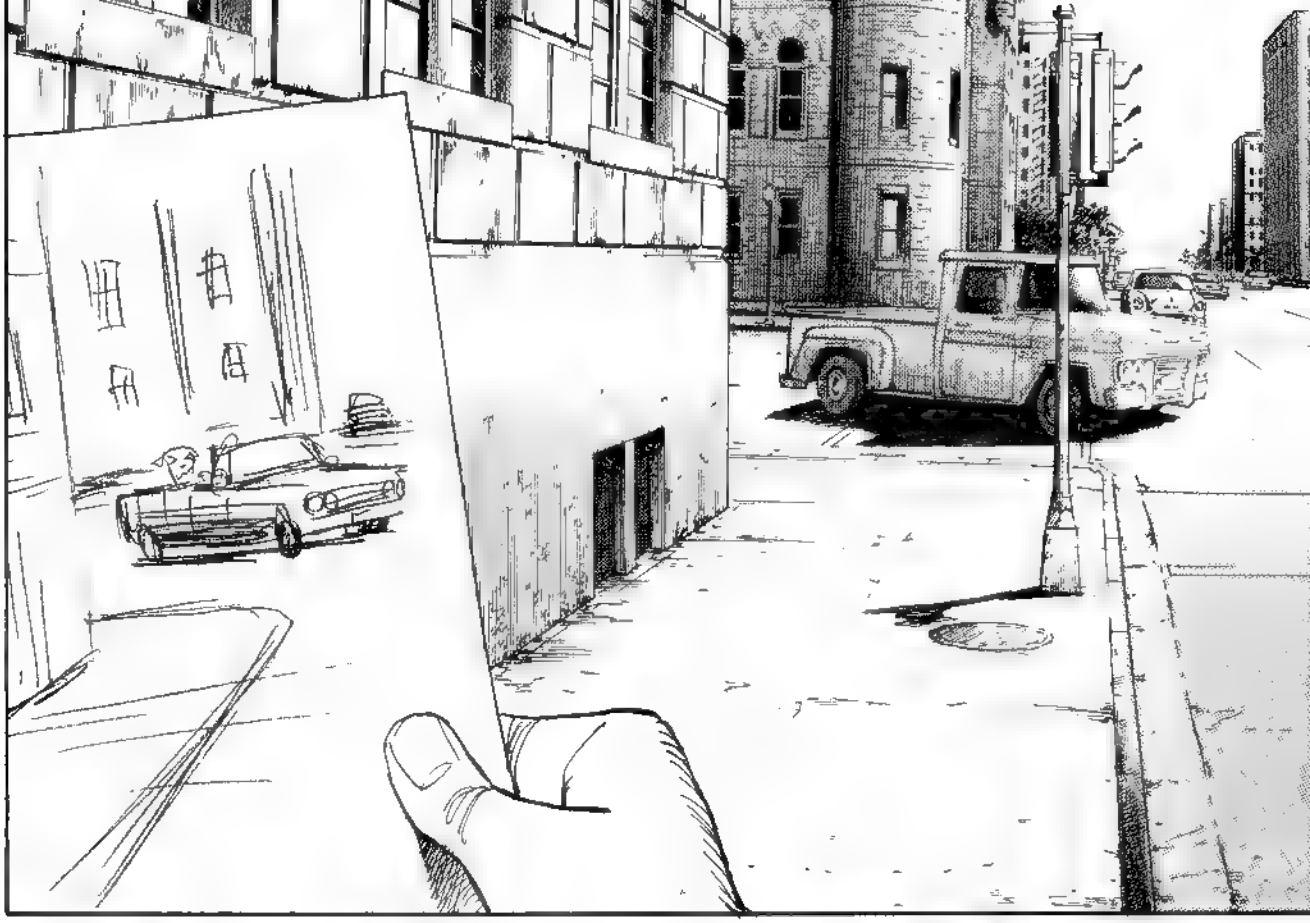
IS A RELAXED SCENE LIKE THAT REALLY NECESSARY IN THE SECOND-TO-LAST CHAPTER?

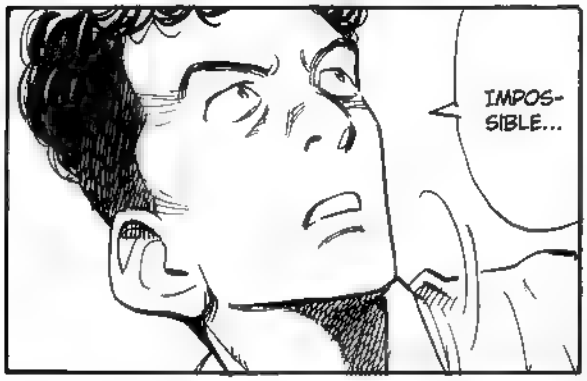
NO, THEY SEEM MORE RELAXED THAN THAT...
HMMM-MM...

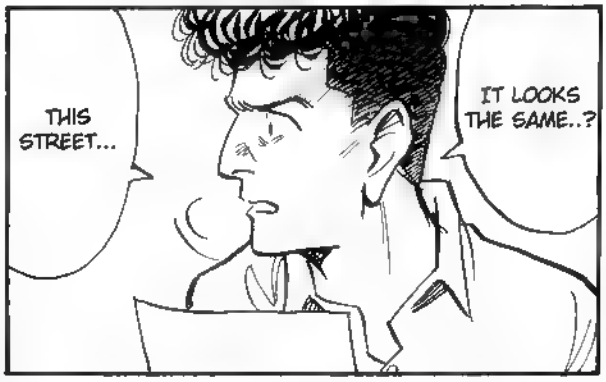
A CAR CHASE..?

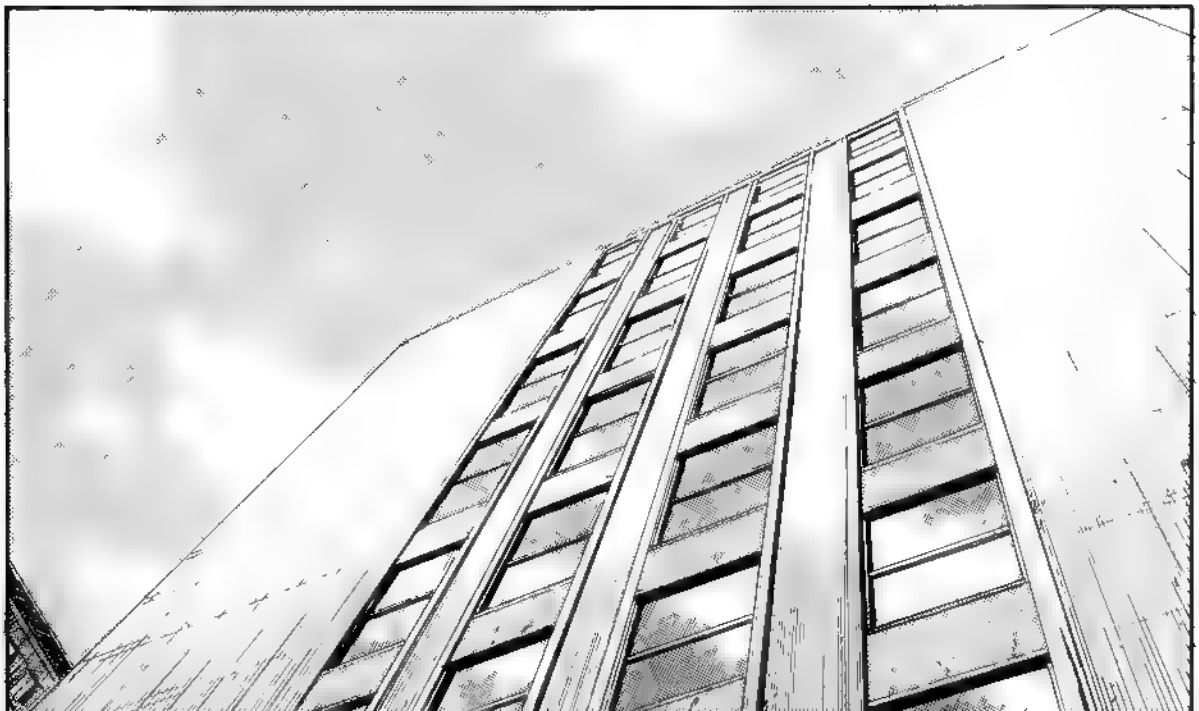
HMMM-MM...

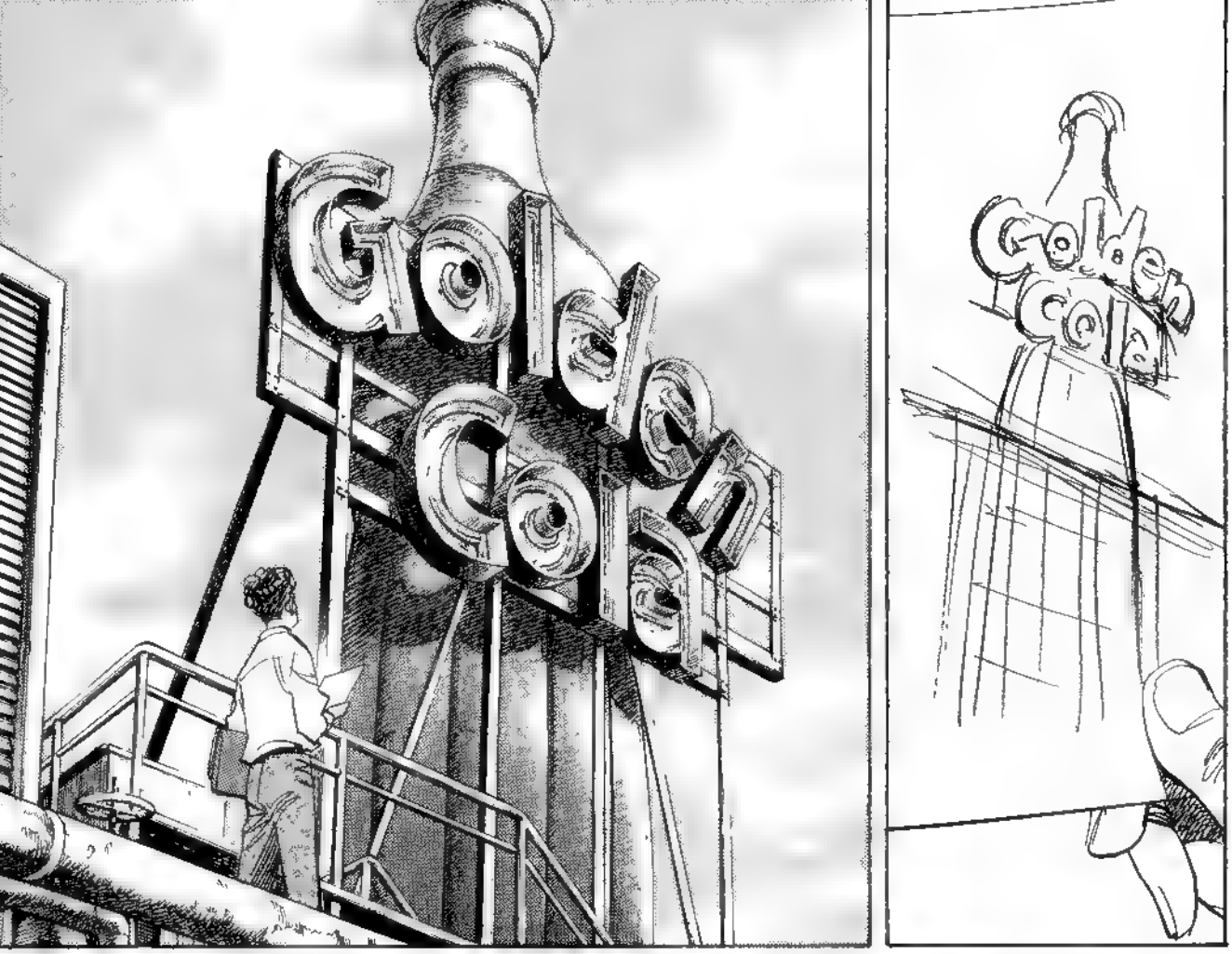
!!
IT CAN'T BE...

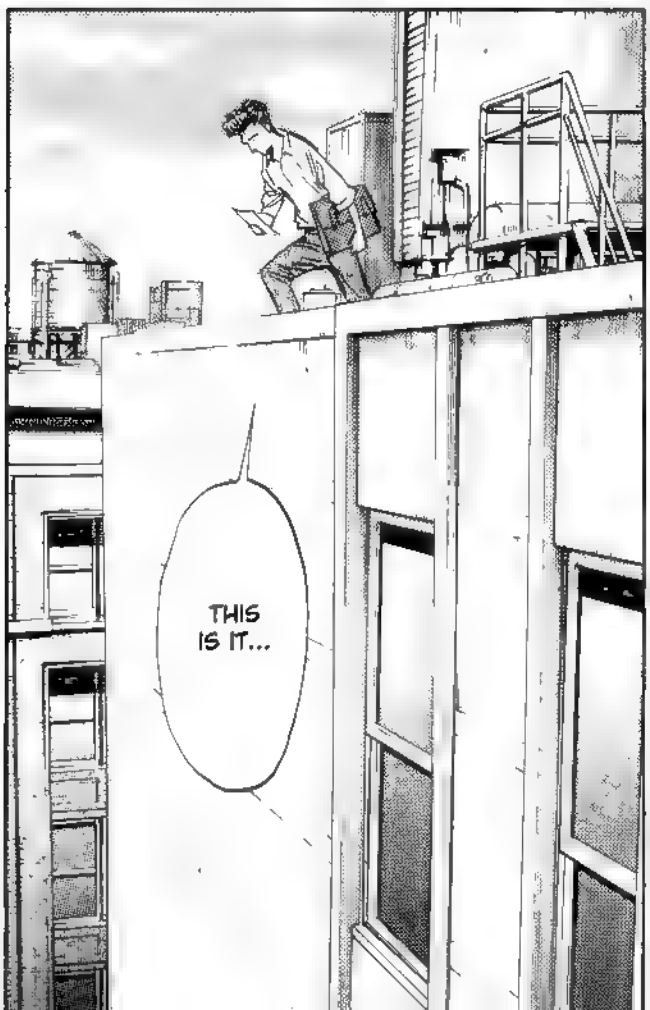



IMPOS-
SIBLE...


THIS
STREET...
IT LOOKS
THE SAME..?



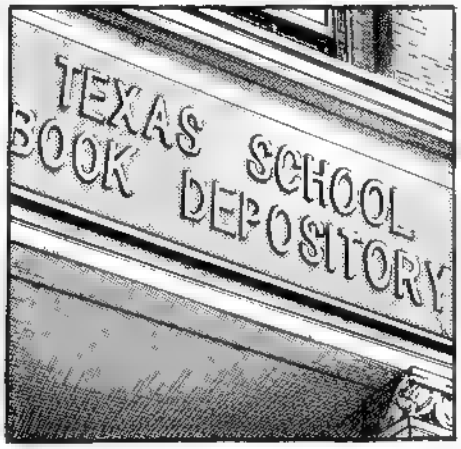

Golden
Cola

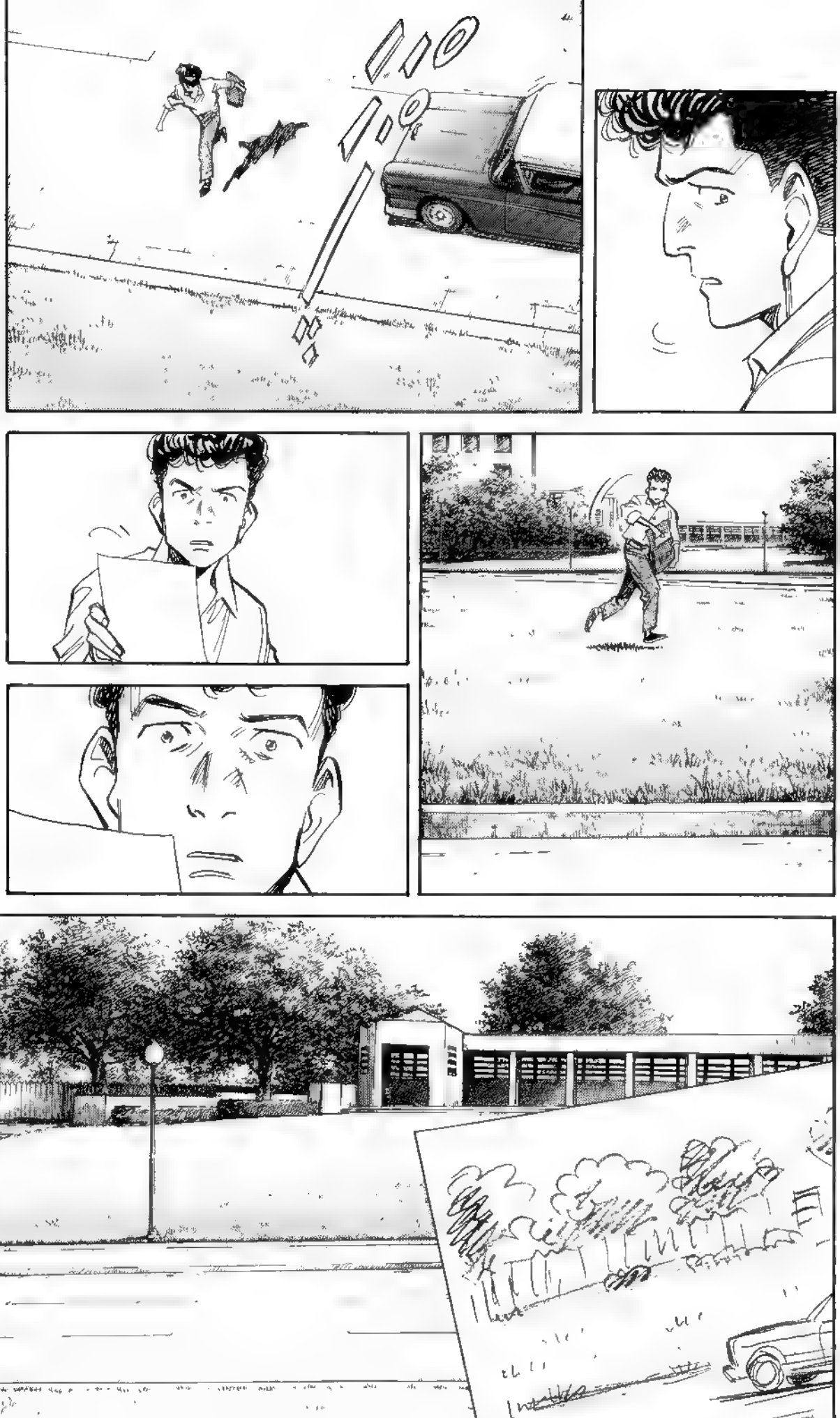

THIS
IS IT...

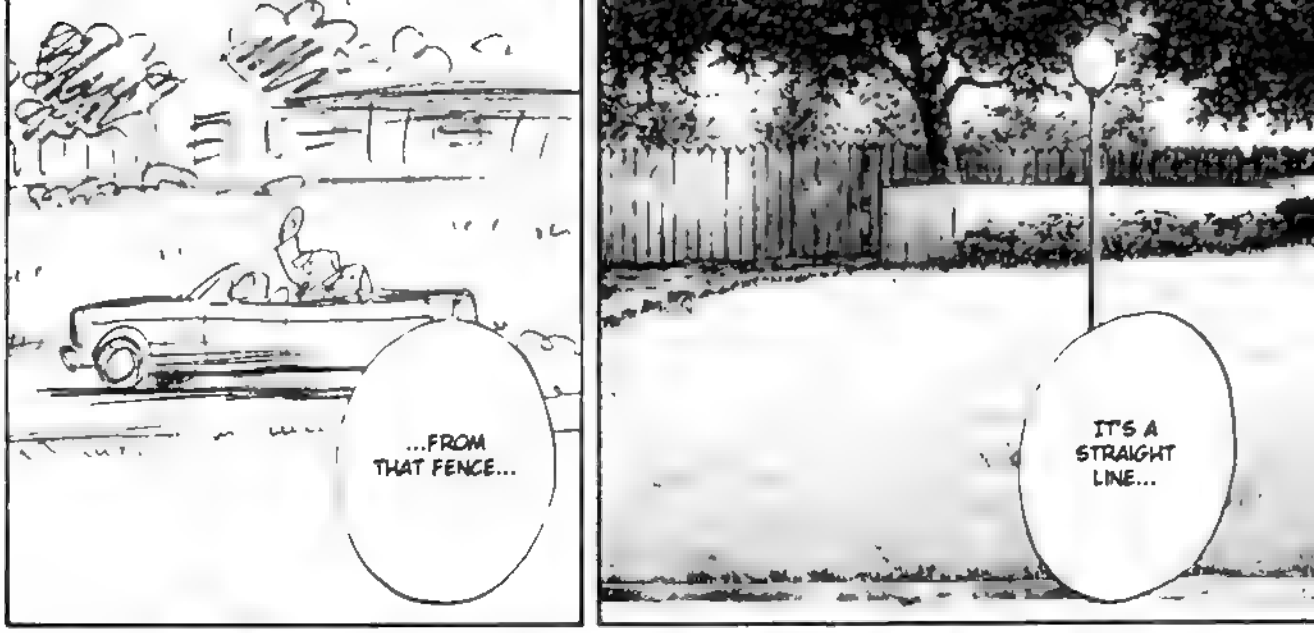
.....

THE CAR WILL TURN THERE...

THE SCHOOL BOOK DEPO-SITORY...

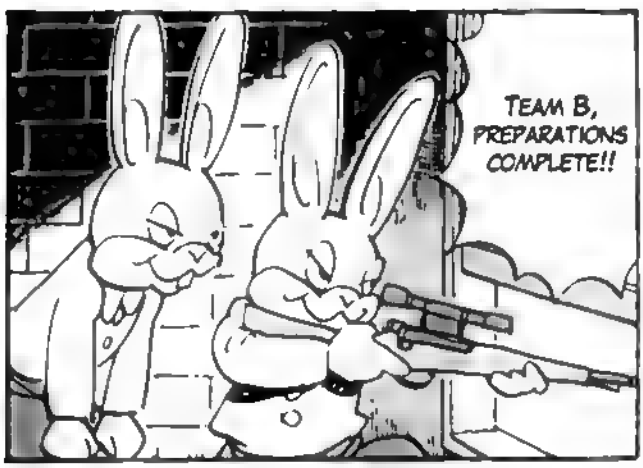

TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY



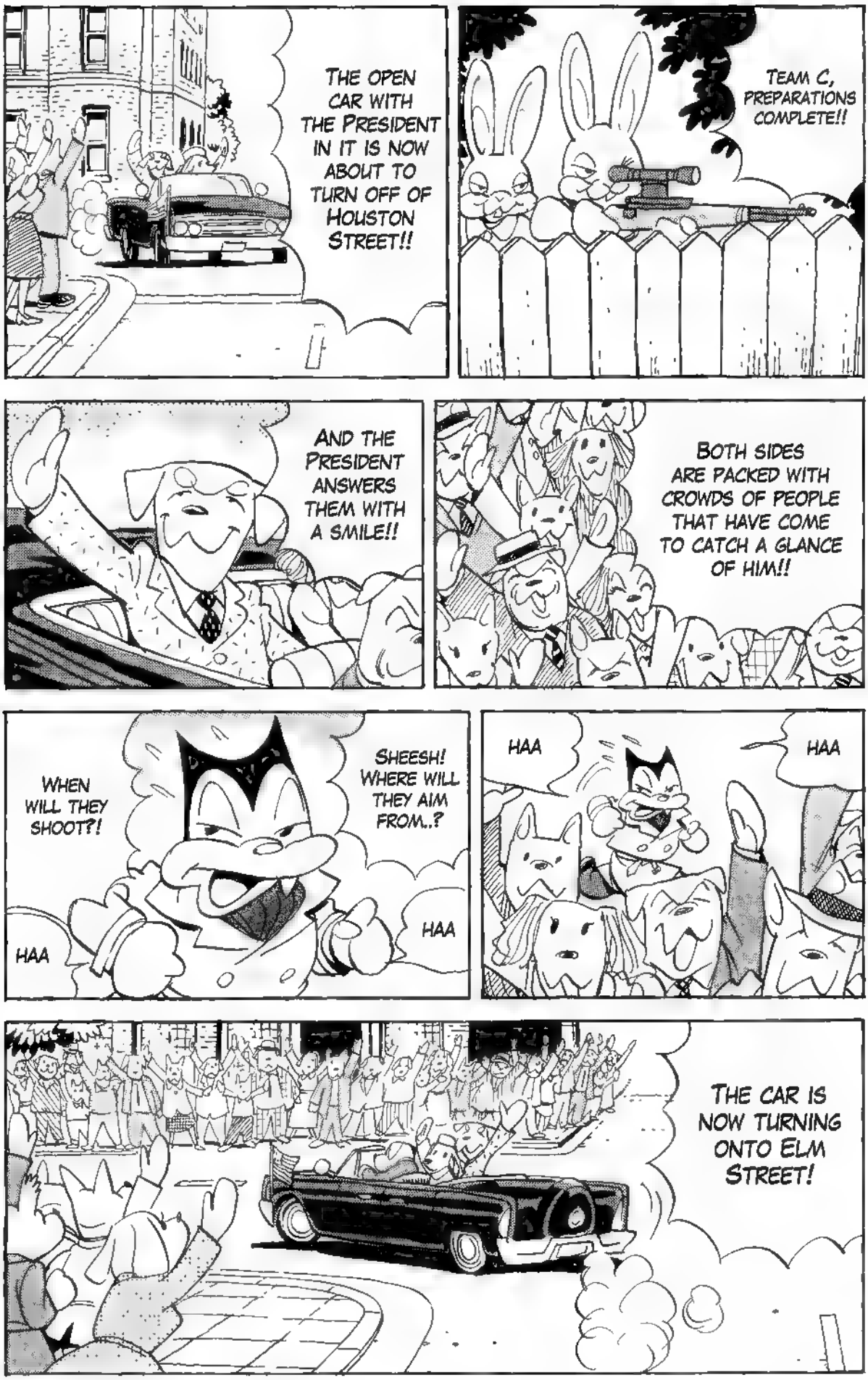

...FROM THAT FENCE...
IT'S A STRAIGHT LINE...

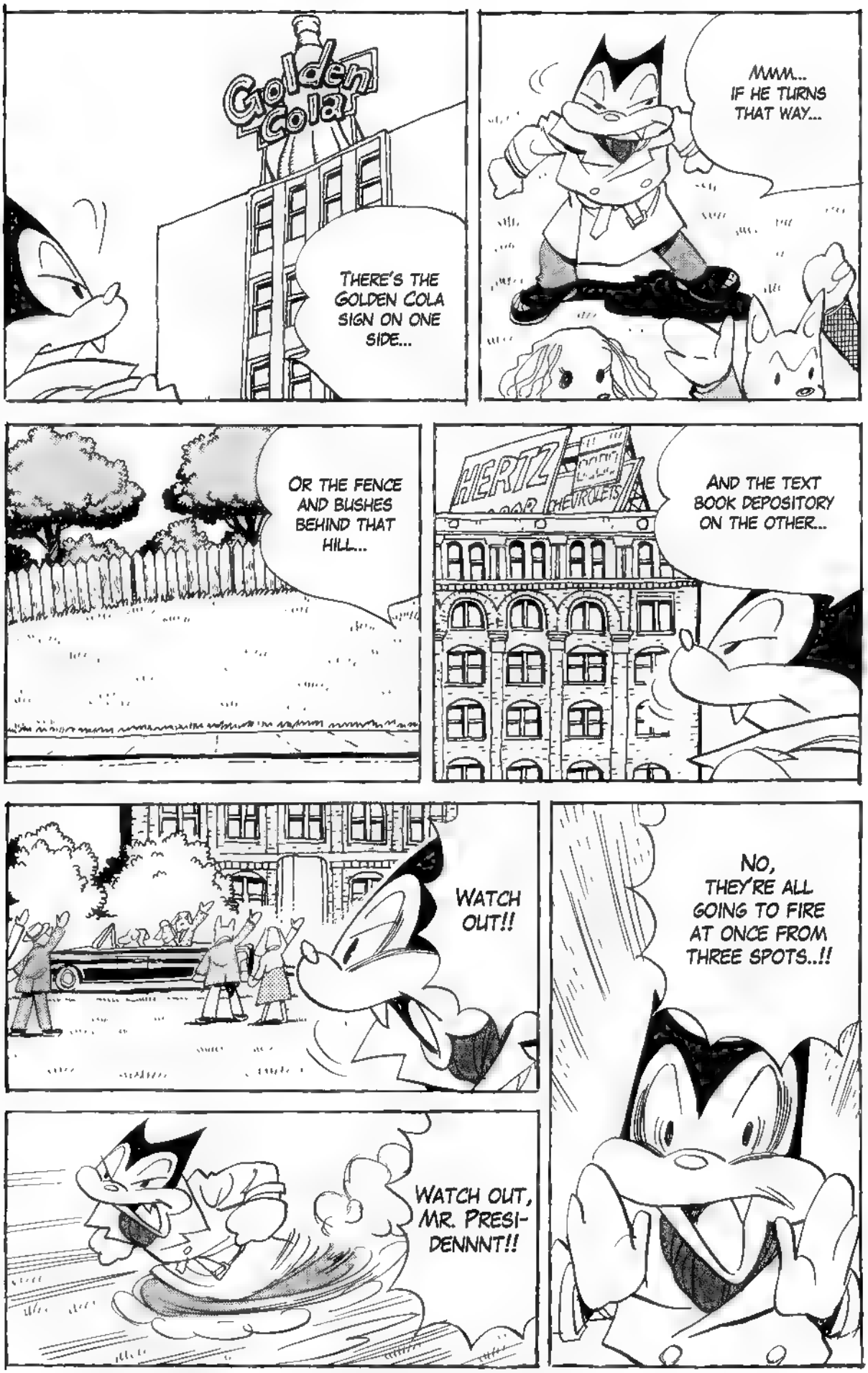
WHAT...

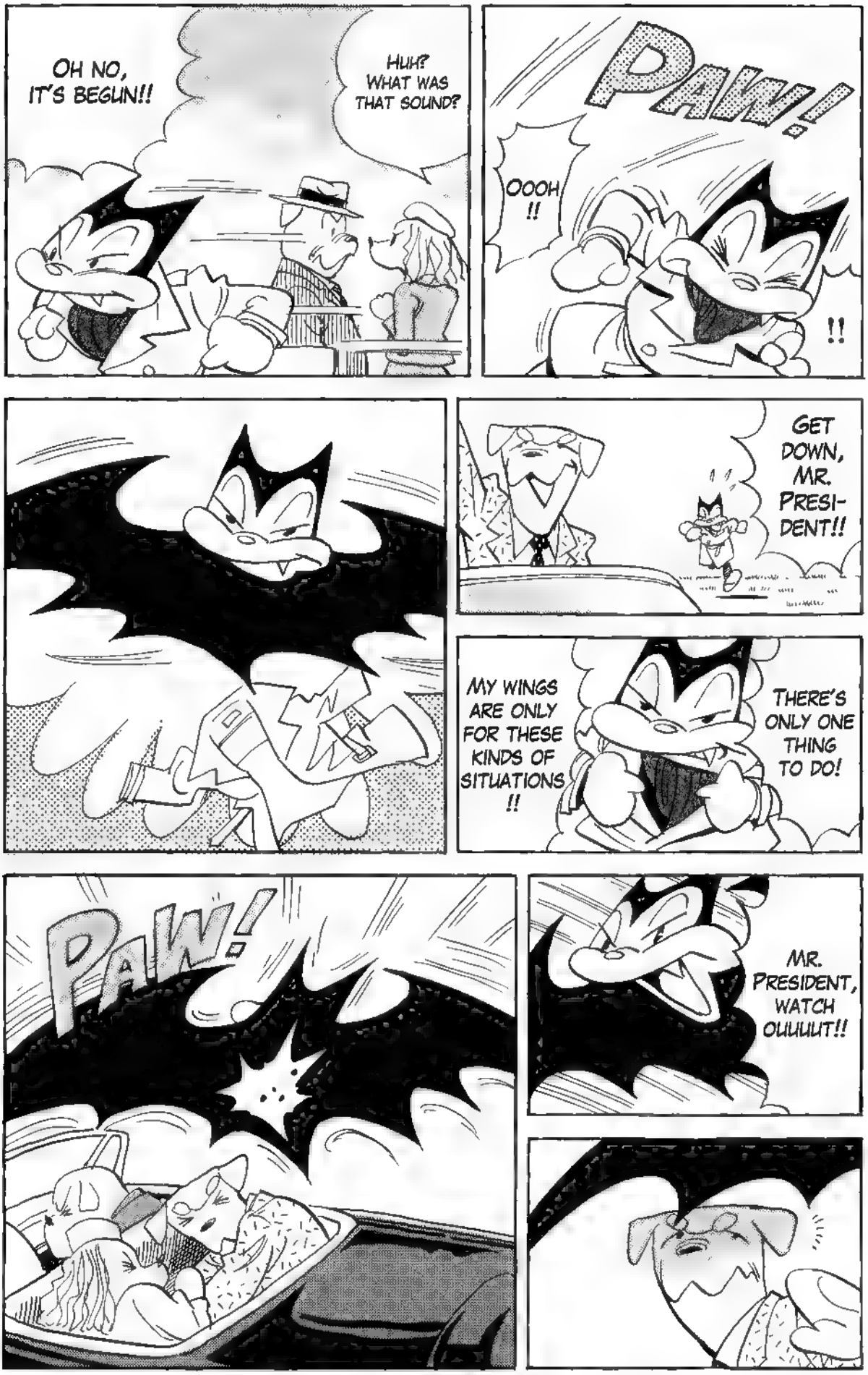
TEAM A, PREPARATIONS COMPLETE!!


TEAM B, PREPARATIONS COMPLETE!!

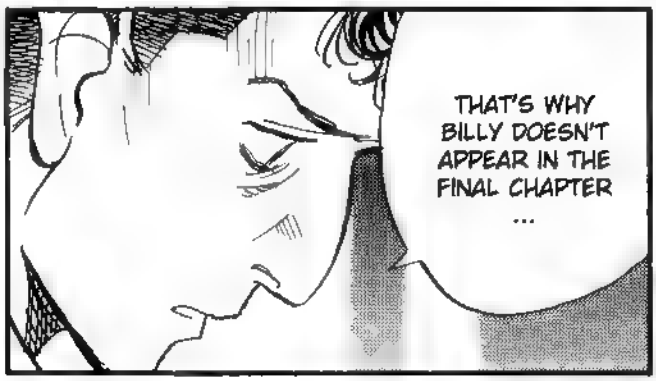
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN..?


THE OPEN CAR WITH THE PRESIDENT IN IT IS NOW ABOUT TO TURN OFF OF HOUSTON STREET!!
TEAM C, PREPARATIONS COMPLETE!!
AND THE PRESIDENT ANSWERS THEM WITH A SMILE!!
BOTH SIDES ARE PACKED WITH CROWDS OF PEOPLE THAT HAVE COME TO CATCH A GLANCE OF HIM!!
WHEN WILL THEY SHOOT?!
SHEESH! WHERE WILL THEY AIM FROM..?
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
THE CAR IS NOW TURNING ONTO ELM STREET!


Golden Cola
THERE'S THE GOLDEN COLA SIGN ON ONE SIDE...
MMM... IF HE TURNS THAT WAY...
OR THE FENCE AND BUSHES BEHIND THAT HILL...
HERTZ
AND THE TEXT BOOK DEPOSITORY ON THE OTHER...
WATCH OUT!!
NO, THEY'RE ALL GOING TO FIRE AT ONCE FROM THREE SPOTS..!!
WATCH OUT, MR. PRESI-DENNNT!!


OH NO, IT'S BEGUN!!
HUH? WHAT WAS THAT SOUND?
PAW!
OOOH !!
!!
GET DOWN, MR. PRESI-DENT!!
MY WINGS ARE ONLY FOR THESE KINDS OF SITUATIONS !!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO!
PAW!
MR. PRESIDENT, WATCH OUUUUT!!

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?!
Y...YOU...
JUST HURRY UP AND RUN!
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
WHAT IN THE WORLD...
HURRY UP AND CALL AN AMBULANCE!!
IT'S ONLY ME.
ONLY ME...


THAT'S WHY BILLY DOESN'T APPEAR IN THE FINAL CHAPTER ...

SO THAT'S IT...

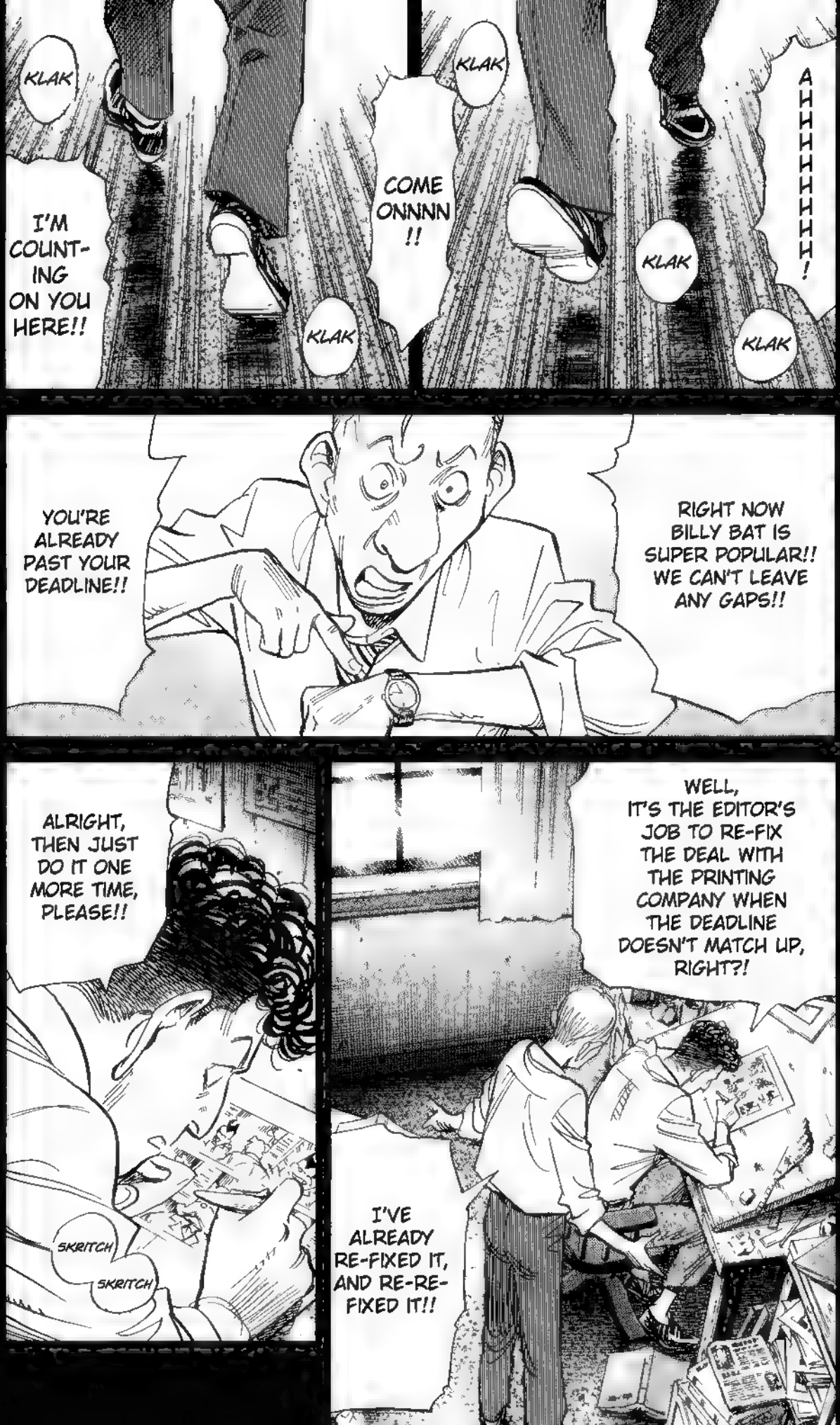
THAT'S IT.

YEAH...

IF YOU WANT TO SAVE THE PRESIDENT'S LIFE, THAT'S HOW IT'LL TURN OUT.
THAT'S THE WAY HISTORY WORKS.
THINGS CAN'T GO ON WITHOUT SOMEONE DYING.
THERE HAS TO BE A BETTER WAY TO END THIS.
WHAT A TERRIBLE STORY...
IT'S SAD TO THINK I'LL BE SAYING GOODBYE TO ALL MY READERS THIS TIME AROUND.
YEAH, IT'S TERRIBLE ALRIGHT.

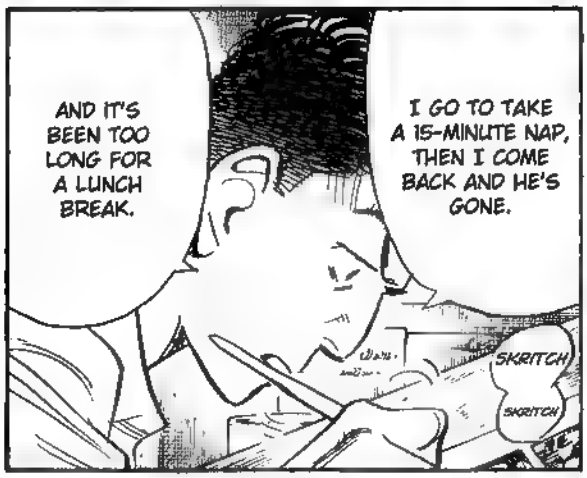
SOMEONE'S SACRIFICE, MIGHT I ADD.
THERE ISN'T. THIS STORY WON'T END WITHOUT A SACRIFICE.
YOU THINK THIS IS REALLY GOING TO HAPPEN..?
THIS ISN'T FUNNY!! THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN DRINKING AND AVOIDING SEEING YOU!!
SHUT UP.
YOU'RE THE ARTIST, AREN'T YOU?
WOAH, HOLD ON THERE.
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE OF YOUR STORIES!!
MY STORIES..?

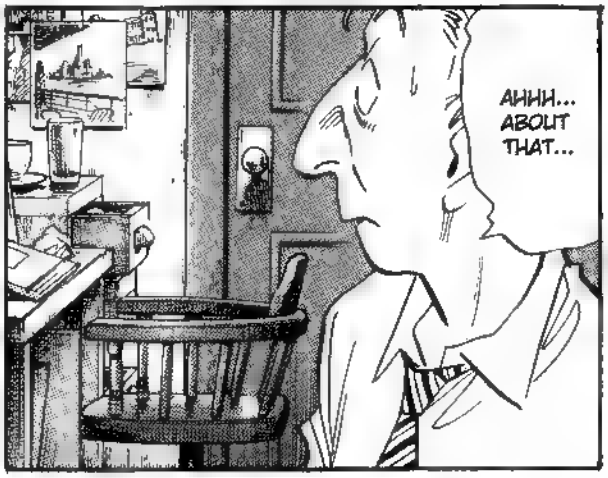
YOU THOUGHT ALL THIS UP.


KLAK
I'M COUNT-ING ON YOU HERE!!
KLAK
KLAK
COME ONNNN !!
KLAK
KLAK
AHHHHHHHH!
YOU'RE ALREADY PAST YOUR DEADLINE!!
RIGHT NOW BILLY BAT IS SUPER POPULAR!! WE CAN'T LEAVE ANY GAPS!!
ALRIGHT, THEN JUST DO IT ONE MORE TIME, PLEASE!!
SKRITCH
SKRITCH
WELL, IT'S THE EDITOR'S JOB TO RE-FIX THE DEAL WITH THE PRINTING COMPANY WHEN THE DEADLINE DOESN'T MATCH UP, RIGHT?!
I'VE ALREADY RE-FIXED IT, AND RE-RE-FIXED IT!!

WHAT HAPPENED TO CHUCK, ANYWAY?

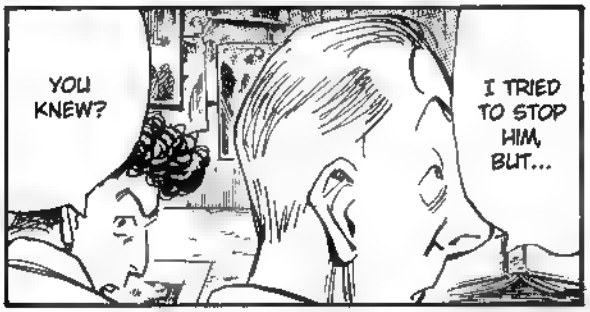
YOU MIGHT AS WELL ASK ME TO SPIN THE EARTH BACKWARDS !!
OK, FINE, WHATEVER, JUST DO IT!!

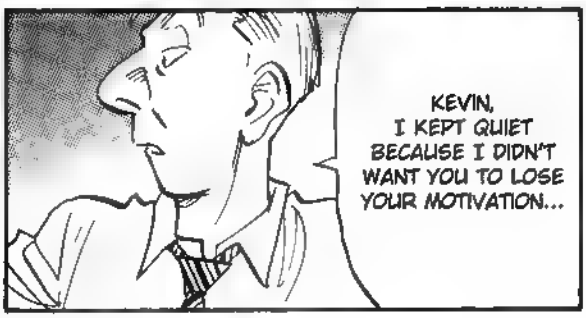

AND IT'S BEEN TOO LONG FOR A LUNCH BREAK.
I GO TO TAKE A 15-MINUTE NAP, THEN I COME BACK AND HE'S GONE.
SKRITCH
SKRITCH


AHHH... ABOUT THAT...

TO GO SEE THE OCEAN...

WHERE DID HE GO?


YOU KNEW?
I TRIED TO STOP HIM, BUT...


KEVIN, I KEPT QUIET BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO LOSE YOUR MOTIVATION...

HE SAID HE COULDN'T GET THE OCEAN RIGHT, NO MATTER HOW HARD HE TRIED, SO HE WENT TO GO TAKE A LOOK AT IT.
THE OCEAN ..?!
SSSSSSSH
CHUCK...
YOU SHOULD FIRE HIM.

CHAPTER 45 REPLICA

BAR&GRI

...TO ASSASSINATE THE PRESI-DENT..?
I SEE... SO A PART OF THE GOVERNMENT, A PART OF THE ARMY, AND THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY ARE WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE MAFIA...

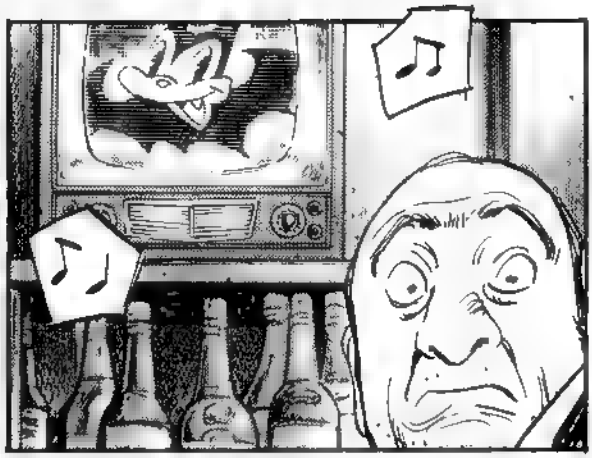
...OSWALD.
...WHOSE NAME IS...
AND NOW THEY'RE GOING TO MAKE IT ALL SEEM LIKE IT WAS THE WORK OF SOME DUMMY...

AND THEY'RE PLANNING TO DO IT DURING THE PARADE.
THAT'S QUITE A STORY.
IF THEY AIM FROM THREE ANGLES, THEY'LL HAVE A VERY HIGH CHANCE OF SUCCESS.
HE...
THE BAT TOLD ME THIS:
...HE'S ONE HECK OF A SCENARIO WRITER.
THAT BAT YOU SAY APPEARS IN FRONT OF YOU...
"YOU THOUGHT ALL THIS UP, DIDN'T YOU?"

HOW ABOUT A DRINK?
IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT NOW !!
SUPER REFRESHING GOLDEN COLA!
.....
WHEN I WAS SOBER, I LET HIM TELL ME EVERYTHING.
OHH... SO YOU MEAN YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS NEXT, THEN?
THIS STORY WON'T END WITHOUT A SACRIFICE.
SOMEONE'S SACRIFICE, MIGHT I ADD.

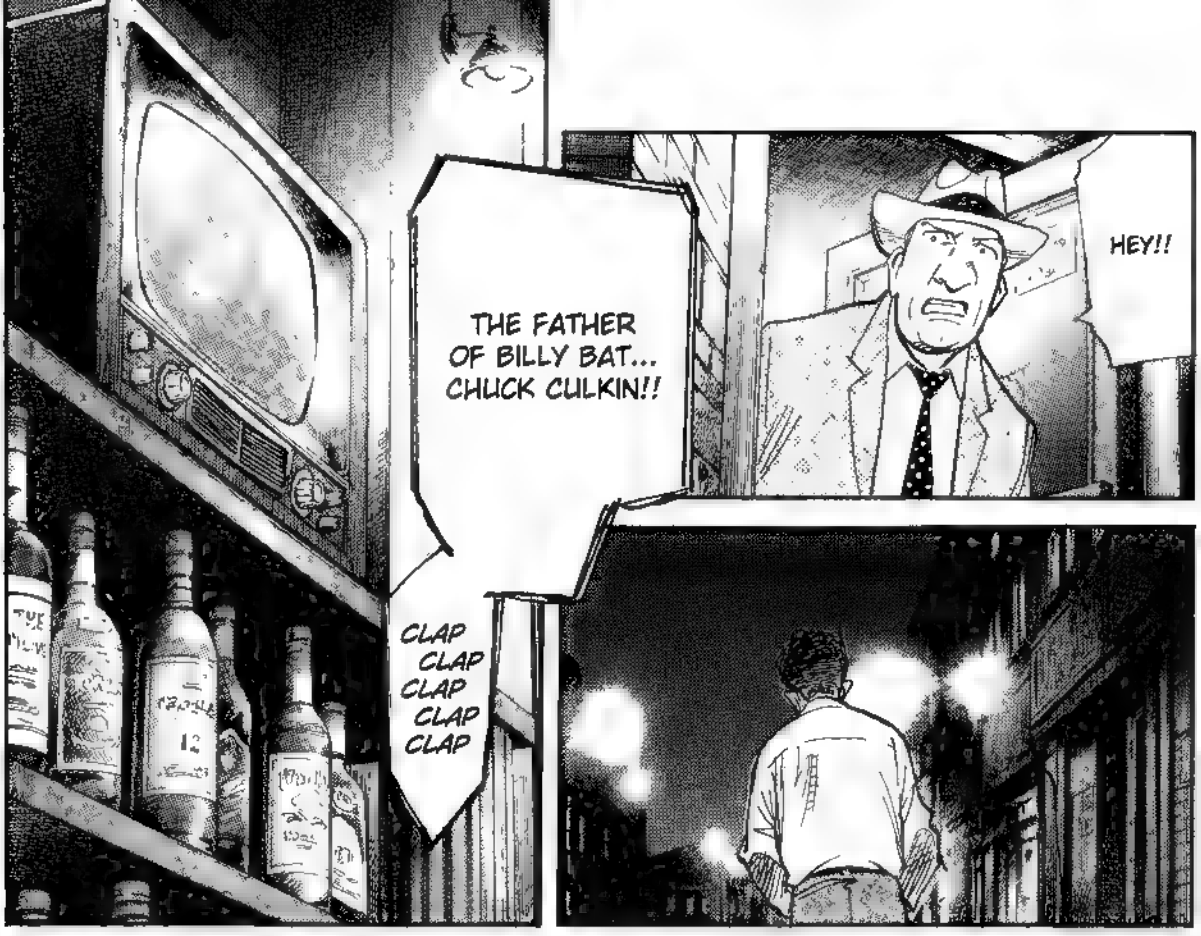
YESSIR.
ONE MORE GOLDEN COLA!
THE BILLY BAT HOUR!
HERE IT IS AGAIN: YOUR WEEKLY DOSE OF ADVENTURES AND DREAMS!!
SORRY, BUT I WAIT TO WATCH THIS EVERY WEEK.
LOOK, THE MOST POPULAR SHOW ON TV IS ON.
NOW, BILLY, WHAT KIND OF FANTASTIC WORLD WILL YOU TAKE US TO THIS TIME?!
TURN THAT OFF PLEASE, BARTENDER.

I SAID TURN IT OFF!!



HEY, WAIT.

CREAK
AND INTRODUCING YOUR HOST, AS ALWAYS...


HEY!!
THE FATHER OF BILLY BAT... CHUCK CULKIN!!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

I SOMEHOW MADE IT THROUGH THIS TIME...
THE FIGHT SCENE IN THE JUNGLE IS SO INTENSE!!

WOOOW, THIS ONE'S JUST AS GREAT AS THE OTHERS!!

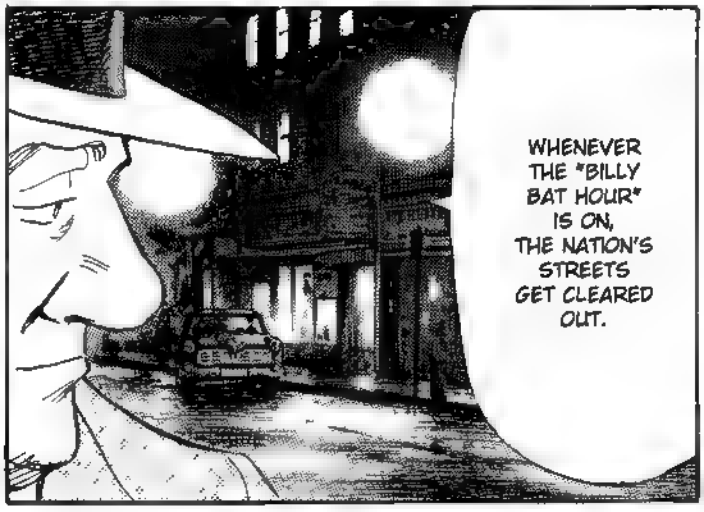
IT'S PERFECT, KEVIN!!

ZZZ.
THAT'S BECAUSE CHUCK WORKED HARD FOR ME.
BE PROUD, CHUCK!!
CHUCK'S MY RIGHT HAND MAN ...
HE WORKED ALL NIGHT FOR THREE DAYS...
ZZZ.
NO, HE'S MY CLONE...

LOOKS LIKE THE RUMORS WERE TRUE.

HEAD
CHES
TEA
ROLLS
E.B.T.

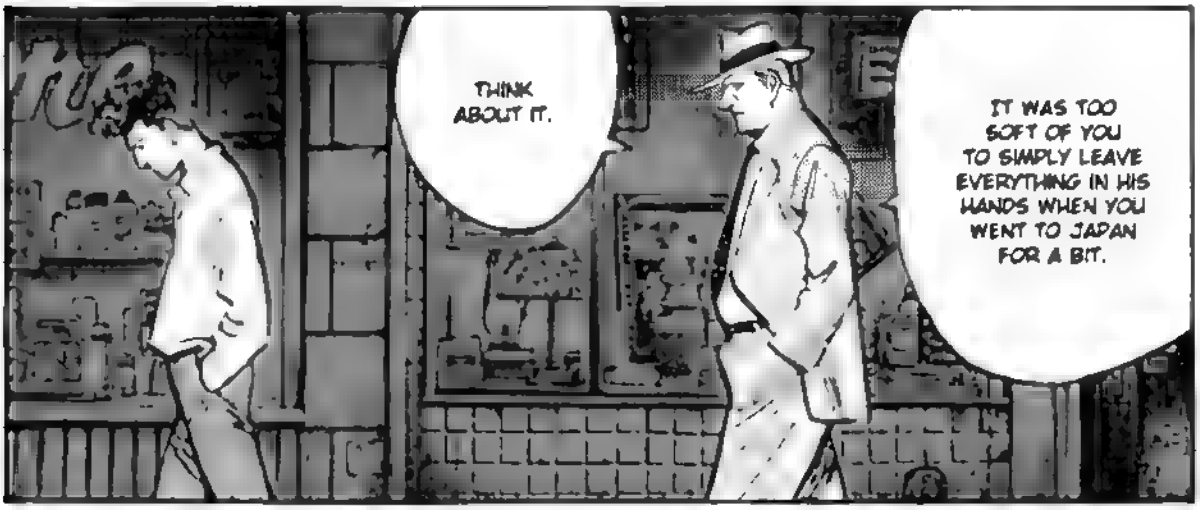
APPARENTLY IT HAS OVER A 70% RATING IN CALIFORNIA, YOU KNOW.


WHENEVER THE "BILLY BAT HOUR" IS ON, THE NATION'S STREETS GET CLEARED OUT.

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT YOUR TRUSTED TRAINEE BETRAYING YOU..?

KLAK
KLAK

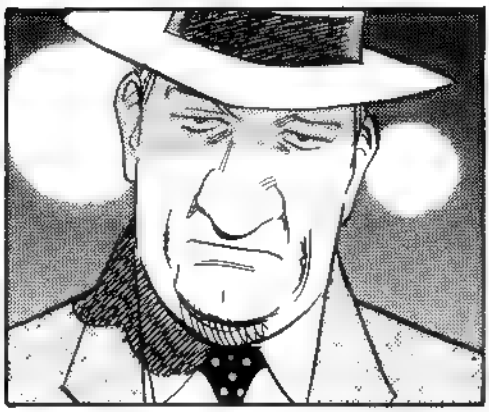
MAN UP.
YOU WERE
JUST NAIVE.


THINK
ABOUT IT.
IT WAS TOO
SOFT OF YOU
TO SIMPLY LEAVE
EVERYTHING IN HIS
HANDS WHEN YOU
WENT TO JAPAN
FOR A BIT.

. AND HE'S
A BILLIONAIRE
NOW.
EVERYTHING
WAS STOLEN
FROM YOU...

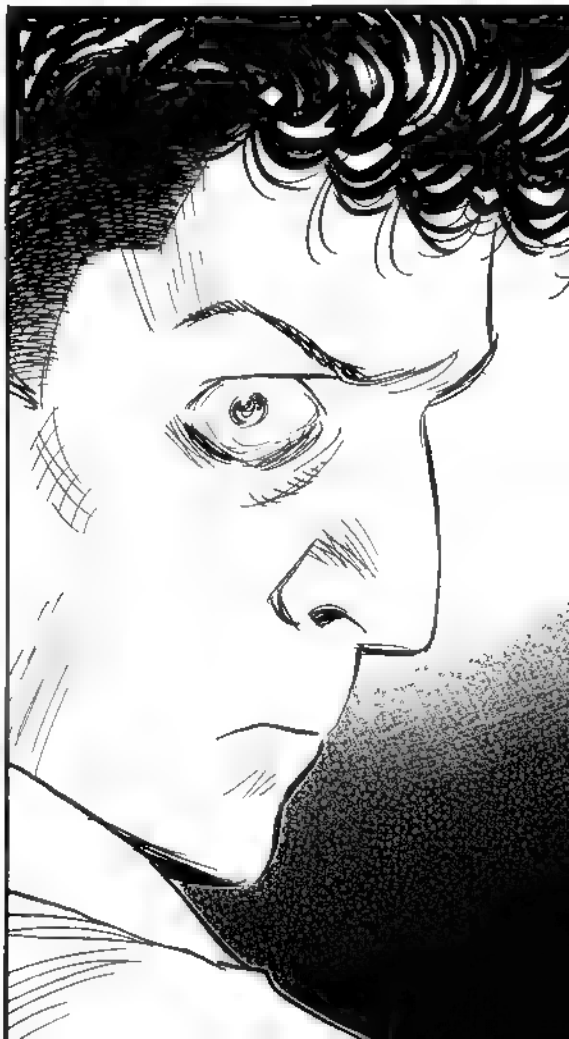
WHEN YOU
COME HOME,
YOUR OFFICE
IS EMPTY.
AND NOT
ONLY THAT,
BUT YOUR
CHARACTER
WAS
COMPLETELY
RIPPED OFF...

HE'S A MASTERFUL, VICIOUS BUSINESSMAN!
CHUCK CULKIN ISN'T THE KIND OF MAN YOU THINK HE IS.

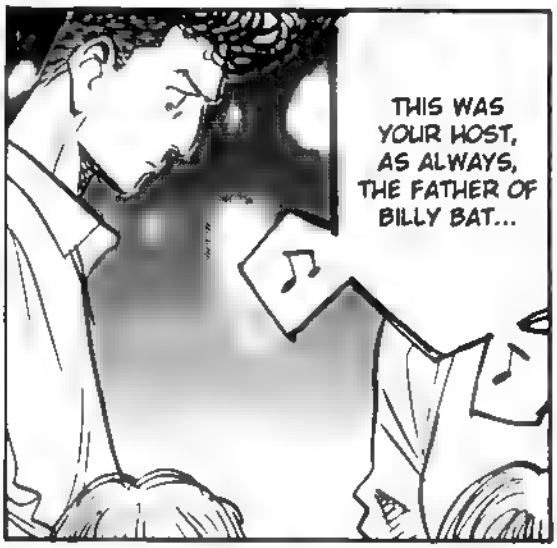


DO YOU THINK CHUCK SEES THE BAT?

I DON'T KNOW.

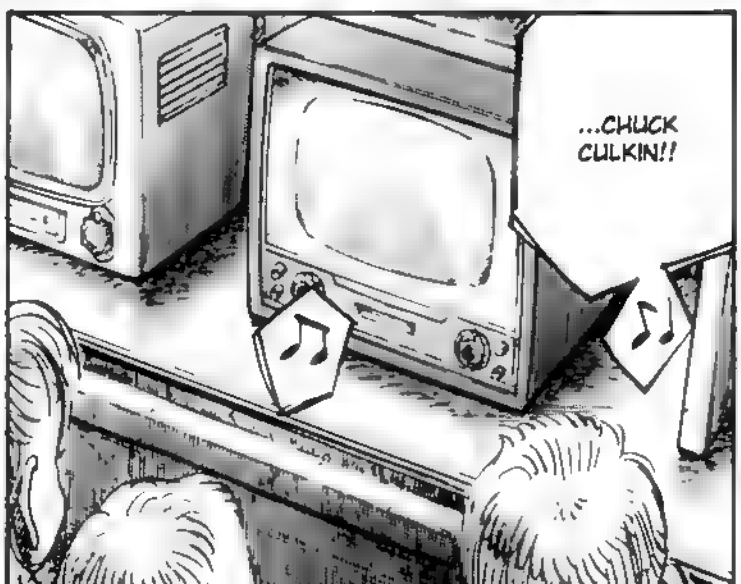


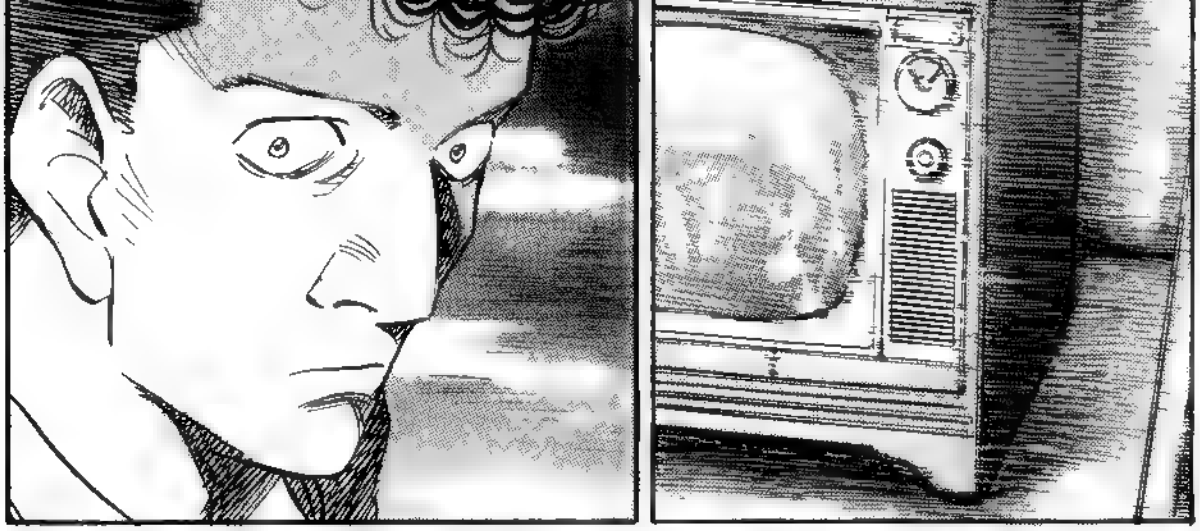
WHAAAT ?
AND THAT'S IT FOR "THE BILLY BAT HOUR"!!
IT'S OVER ALREADY?!

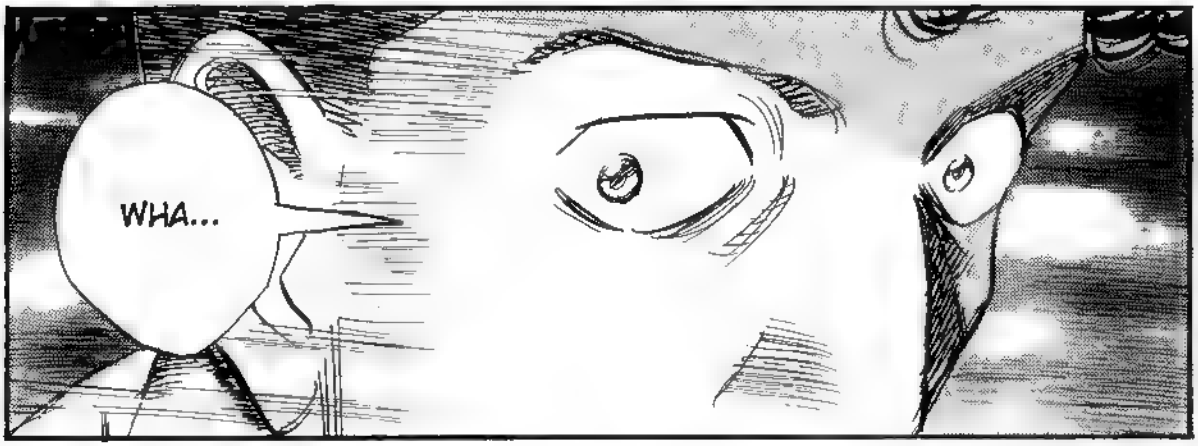

THIS WAS YOUR HOST, AS ALWAYS, THE FATHER OF BILLY BAT...

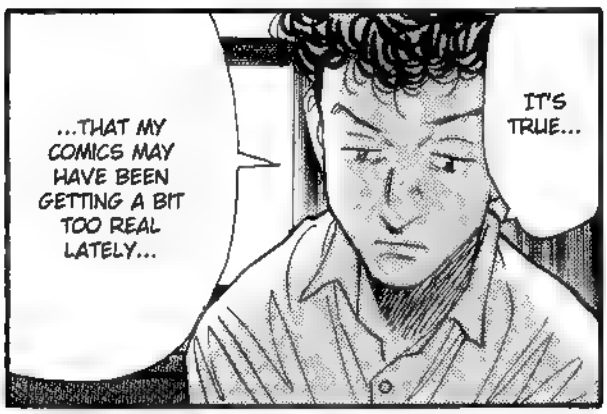
BUT WE'LL BE BACK NEXT WEEK TO TAKE YOU TO ANOTHER FANTASY WORLD OF DREAMS AND ADVENTURE!!

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK !!

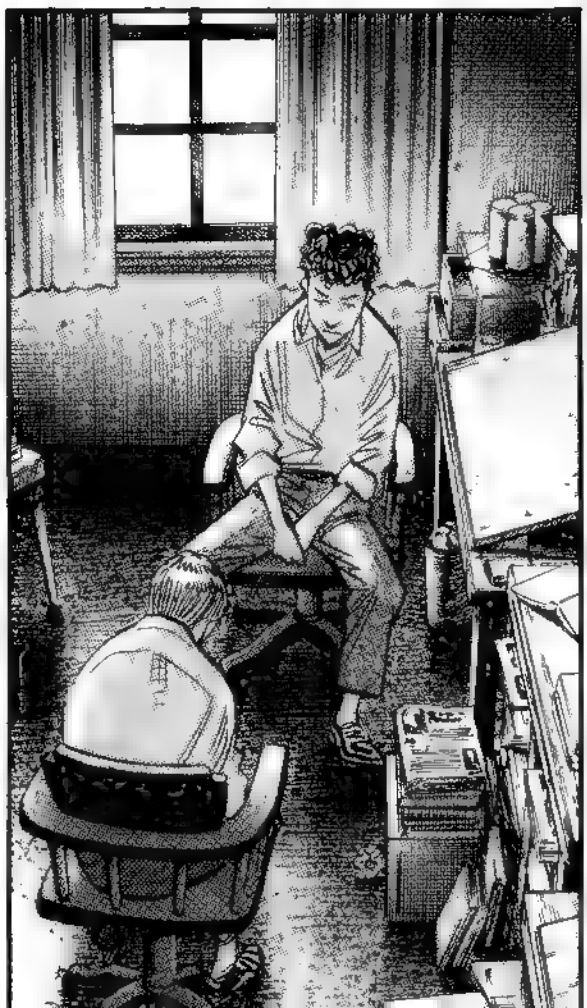

...CHUCK CULKIN!!




WHA...


IT'S TRUE...
...THAT MY COMICS MAY HAVE BEEN GETTING A BIT TOO REAL LATELY...

AND I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN ABOUT FOCUSING ON THE CHILDREN.



I REALIZE I SHOULDN'T BE HOLDING YOU BACK.
BUT I ONLY HAVE ENOUGH POWER NOW TO KEEP THIS GOING BY MYSELF.
NO
WHEN I THINK ABOUT YOUR FUTURE
I, UM.
I ACTUALLY FEEL LIKE I'M HOLDING YOU BACK...
YOU'RE WRONG. THAT ISN'T THE WAY THINGS ARE
I COULDN'T DRAW IT RIGHT, SO I HAD TO GO ALL THE WAY TO THE OCEAN.
KEVIN... I COULD NEVER DRAW THE RIGHT KIND OF OCEAN YOU WERE LOOKING FOR...

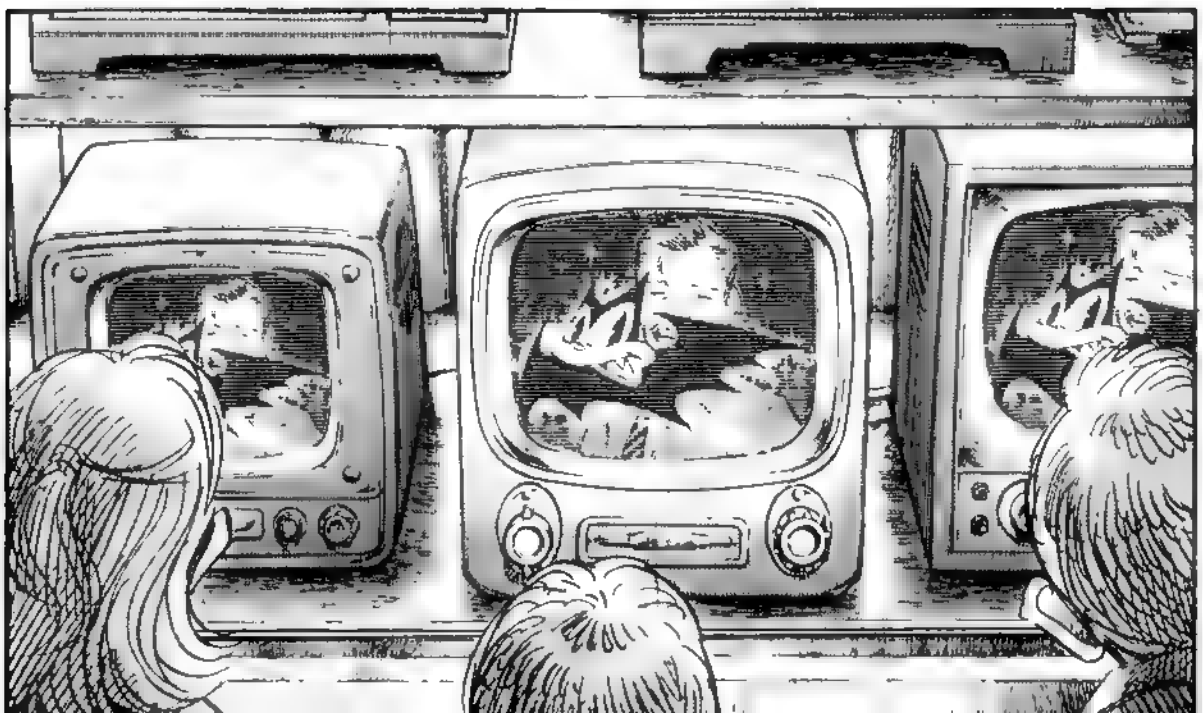
...WILL JUST BE RUINED IN THE END...
IF I KEEP DRAWING THE WAY I AM NOW, THEN ALL THE GREAT THINGS ABOUT BILLY BAT...

HUH...
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO QUIT.
CHUCK...

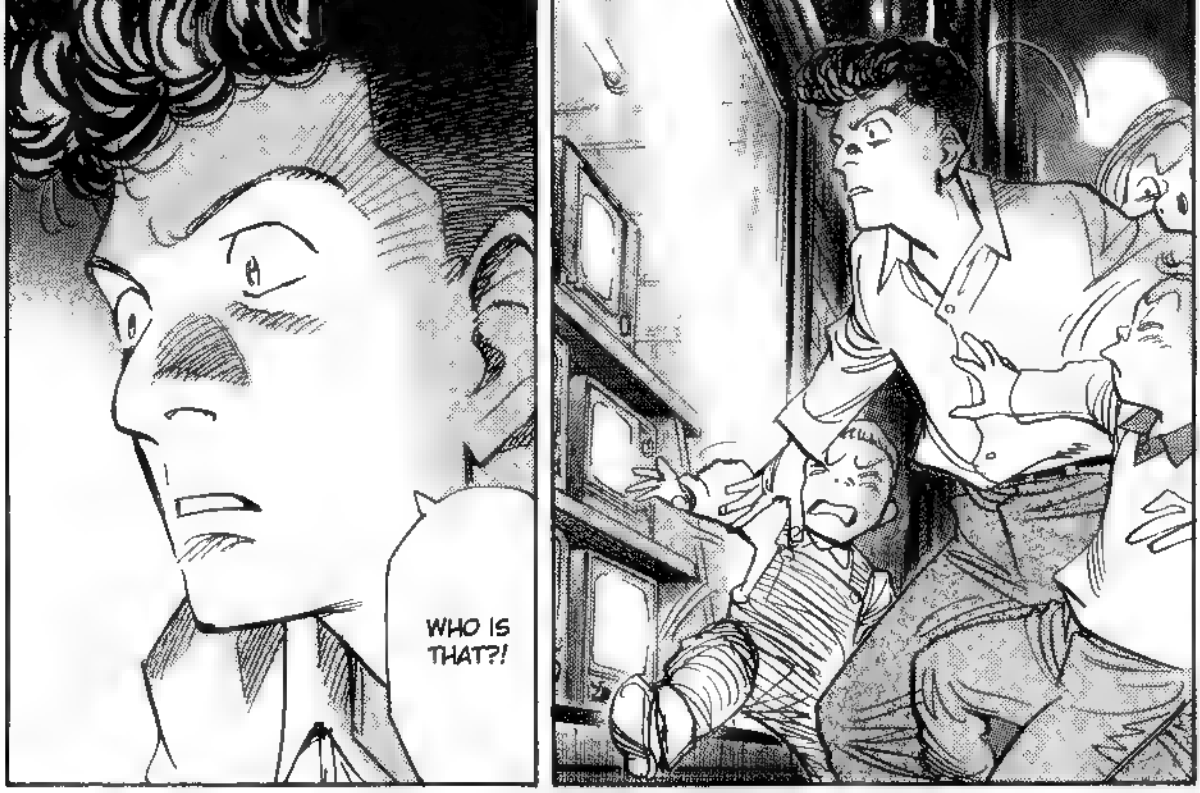
PLEASE, KEEP LENDING ME YOUR STRENGTH.
...BUT YOUR BILLY AS WELL.
BILLY BAT ISN'T JUST MY BILLY, ...

OF COURSE! IF YOU DON'T MIND ME STICKING AROUND!!

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK!!



I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU HERE WITH BILLY!!


WHO IS THAT?!

HUH?
WHO IS THAT MAN?!
WHAT'S WRONG?!

WOOOW...
DON'T YOU KNOW HIS NAME, MISTER?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THAT'S THE MAN WHO WHIRLED UP THIS NATIONAL BOOM, YOUR EX-ASSISTANT ...
HE'S THE FATHER OF BILLY BAT!!
HE'S THE MOST FAMOUS CARTOONIST IN THE WORLD!!
NO!!
YOU DON'T KNOW CHUCK CULKIN?!

THIS MAN ISN'T CHUCK ..!!

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モーニングKC1955

BILLY BAT ⑤

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